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WASHINGTON.

Preparations for the Debate of Tuesday—The Judiciary Committee and Impeachment—Railroad Dictation.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The interest in regard to the proceedings of Tuesday next increases very much as the day approaches, and it is plain to be seen from the serious manner and expressions of members that they have been called to no task of equal responsibility since the great majority of them entered Congress. Many of them, realizing the embarrassments of the situation, are not content either to accept or reject the judgment of the committee without further investigation, and are therefore engaged in carefully reading up the evidence for their own information. There has been no particular change in the feeling here or among members, and it is still exceedingly doubtful whether the resolutions for expulsion can pass, and as for a resolution of censure upon the other members, which is urged in some quarters, it would, if offered to-morrow, be rejected. The debate of Tuesday will be able, and undoubtedly earnest and severe. It is reported that Gen. Butler is to appear as champion for Ames, who will also appear for himself in a further written statement, while on the Democratic side there will be numerous expositions of Mr. Brooks, generally at the expense of those Republican members whose motives are vindicated by the report. These latter gentlemen are naturally and properly very sensitive as to their positions, and some of them will very likely be heard from in the debate. It is reported that Judge Bingham will be ready not only to defend his own position, but to say something interesting and instructive in regard to the law and the morals of the case. The friends of Mr. Dawes, and the same may be said of those of the Vice-President elect, Mr. Wilson, of Senator Logan, and of Representative Scofield, as to whose cases, respectively, there is no conflict of testimony, and all of whom stand on the basis of having retired from the transaction of their own volition four years before any public accusation was thought of, deem the suggestion of censure an act of cruel injustice to them, and they differ with equal confidence to the charge that they knew or could have known at the time that the Credit Mobilier was a scheme to bleed the Government, since the testimony in the case and the facts outside of the case show that the Credit Mobilier did not begin to become a profitable concern until after the Oakes Ames contract with the Pacific Railroad Company was made and began to yield its dividends. Moreover, they assert, the Credit Mobilier was a State corporation, and the fact bore with it the natural assurance that it could not have any affiliations with Congress. Besides this, the fact that it was identical with the railroad company was not known, and could not be known to them unless they had been inspired to make special investigation by distrust of Ames' sentiments, which, at that time, were accepted of all men without question, since his personal responsibility to the extent of eight or ten millions was admitted in all financial circles as the backbone of Pacific Railroad construction. The same remarks as to motives and knowledge apply to the cases of Messrs. Garfield and Kelley, who are in conflict with Mr. Ames as to the nature of their transactions, but it is claimed they are not amenable to the charge of guilty knowledge or corrupt intent, and that, therefore, the only ground upon which their action can be criticised is that taken by the committee, viz., the propriety of the purchase of the stock and the manner in which it was purchased, supposing that fact to be admitted.

THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The statement that the House Judiciary Committee would report in favor of the impeachment of Mr. Colfax is entirely without foundation. So far as can be learned there is but one member of the committee who thinks there is anything in the evidence to warrant it, and a Democratic member of the committee is authority for the statement that there is absolutely no ground discoverable for such a proceeding.

THE INITIAL CHECKS.

The publication of the Poland committee testimony has developed some curious coincidents of evidence not before given to the public in the daily confirmation telegraphed. Particularly is this the case in regard to the checks alleged to have been paid to various members. As to four of the checks, with names in full—Patterson, Allison, Logan, and J. F. Wilson—there is no conflict about them. There were four initial checks—two to S. C., one for $1,200, and another for $600, claimed to be for Scofield; one to H. D. K. for $629, and one to C. A., which Ames thinks was for Garfield, for $329. Scofield testified in January that if any dividends were declared while he was in the investment, he had no recollection of receiving them in that form. Garfield testified that he had never received any dividend, but that Ames loaned him $300 cash, and Colfax and Kelly both testified that they had never seen the initial checks charged to them. None of these initial checks, no matter to whom issued, were indorsed and no receipts have been exhibited for either of them. Ames testifies, page 365, that the O. A. (initial) check may have been for Garfield, and that he (Ames) might have drawn the cash on it and paid it to Garfield, and this he repeats on page 471. Dillon, cashier of the Sergeant-at-arms, testifies, page 477, as has been heretofore published, that he had a very positive impression he paid the S. C. $1,200 check to Ames, and that the day before he had asked Ames if he had not paid it to him, and Ames replied he thought it very likely; but on cross-examination by the chairman, page 479, he replies as has not heretofore been published, "I think I paid all these checks, payable to initials, to Mr. Ames," and added that this was his "very strong impression."

JUDGE DURELL.

The House Judiciary Committee last night began to take testimony under the resolution offered by Mr. Kelly some weeks ago, authorizing the committee to inquire whether Judge Durell had exceeded his jurisdiction in his recent action in Louisiana, or committed other acts deserving of punishment by impeachment.

PACIFIC MAIL LEGISLATION.

The Ways and Means Committee will to-morrow begin the investigation into the Pacific mail subsidy legislation. There seems to be a general impression that money was used in this case, and there are many sensational stories afloat, too sensational indeed to be credited. The Committee will soon find out, though the members thereof do not relish the idea of being turned into a general investigating machine.

SENATOR CALDWELL'S CASE.

The case of Mr. Caldwell will be brought before the Senate to-morrow. It is quite safe to predict that the resolution declaring his election void will not pass. A strong protest is made against this resolution on the ground that the evidence taken does not show, nor does the report claim, that the election was influenced by money to this extent which would be necessary to change the result. Several Senators say that if specific cases of the purchase of votes had been proven to a number which, if added, would destroy the majority by which Caldwell was chosen, they would not hesitate to vote that he was not elected, even if the purchases were not connected with Mr. Caldwell personally. If, then, they say, any action is taken by the Senate, it must be based on Mr. Caldwell's personal use of money for corrupt purposes. Whether this charge is proved or not is a point on which opinions differ, but action on this basis would involve a resolution of expulsion, or, if the case is not flagrant enough for that, of censure. To expel requires a two-thirds vote, and that cannot be had on such a report and recommendation as comes from the committee. Caldwell has some sympathy. Besides, there are Senators who do not hesitate to indicate clear preference for Caldwell to any man named for the succession, or any man placed in public life by Kansas for many years.

RAILROAD DICTATION.

The Senate is growing impatient of the exercise of the power of the railroads, and a very considerable portion of the debate on the Post-office Appropriation bill, which passed last night, was devoted to or called out by the proposed increase of compensation to railroads for carrying the mails and running postal cars. The tone of the speeches was decidedly belligerent. The refusal of railroads to enter into contracts being mentioned, Mr. Stevenson, a Southern Democrat of the old school, said: "I cannot believe that the railroad corporations will attempt to bring themselves into direct antagonism with the Government; but if they have grown so bold and so great as to say to the Postmaster-General that Congress does not possess the power to compel them to contract for this service, let us see if we have not the power to encourage the building of rival routes, and thereby dispense with their services, or secure competition, to the advantage both of the Government and of the people." Mr. Carpenter said, on the same subject: "I have no doubt of the power of the Government to do that, under its power to regulate commerce, and its power to build a railroad between those portions of the country where an existing railroad will not do its duty, and proposes to become an extortioner upon the Government, is as clear as its power to establish a post-office or build one. The Congress shall have power to establish post-offices and post-roads, not 'dirt roads,' as they say out in Ohio, but macadamized roads or railroads, or any other roads which modern civilization may suggest, and that power is as clear as the power to build a Post-office in New-York City." With these sentiments there was general concurrence in remarks by Senators Windom, Hamlin, Sherman, Stewart, Cole, Edmunds, Thurman, and Frelinghuysen. The appropriation of $50,000 for the New-London Navy-yard was defeated on the final vote in the House, yesterday, by a yea and nay vote of 94 to 99. W. R. Roberts of New-York, made a flaming speech against it, alleging that it was a scheme to get the Brooklyn Navy-yard lands into the hands of speculators. Under the rules, the previous question having been ordered, the Connecticut delegation was cut off from making any reply. The Democrats followed the lead of Roberts, and voted solidly against it. A few Republicans, who oppose any increase of navy-yards, voted with them, and made the majority.

SUSPENSION OF ALL FREE POSTAL MATTER.

If the amendment to the Postal Appropriation bill adopted in the Senate yesterday is agreed to by the House, providing that all laws and parts of laws permitting the transmission by mail of any free matter whatever be repealed from and after July 30, 1873, the distribution of the quarto *Globe* through the mails free, under special act of Aug. 5, 1882, without franking, will be suspended. The free exchange of newspapers will be governed by this amendment, and also the free circulation of papers within the counties where published.

RED TAPE THAT STRANGLES.

There is a bill pending in the House, the passage of which would occasion great injustice to a large number of maimed and disabled soldiers. The injustice would arise from the use of the words "constant" and "recommend" in the phraseology of the bill referred to—House bill No. 2,512. These words were stricken from the bill by the action of the House of Representatives in May last, but have again been inserted by an amendment of it in the Senate. The Pension office, by the severity and technicality of its rulings under this law, refuse the grade of pension to which a pensioner's disability justly entitles him, should it appear that he does not, even for a single hour in the twenty-four, require the attendance upon him of another person. A man may, consequently, be in a perfectly helpless and dying condition, yet the pension officials maintain, under the law, that he is not entitled to the amount of pension which his disability demands. By the insertion of the word "recommend," he is left to the mercy of the Examining Surgeon, who, though he may describe a disability of the first-class, may fail to "recommend" the granting of a corresponding pension, which neglects to leave the pensioner without remedy. Although the surgeon may recommend a "total" disability, yet if he fails to state "total of the first grade," the Pension Office gives the pensioner $8 per month, instead of $25, since it recognizes a total disability of three grades. A strong effort will be made to secure a modification of this law. Assistant Secretary Cowan is of the opinion that the existing law is the cause of great injustice. Gen. Logan, of the Senate Committee on Pensions, is of the same opinion. The current rumor that Gov. Perham, of Maine, is to resign and be appointed Commissioner of Pensions, in place of Gen. Baker, is officially contradicted.

MARINE HOSPITALS.

The House on Saturday indorsed the plan of constructing marine hospitals upon the pavilion plan, by passing the appropriation providing for the construction of such an hospital at New-Orleans. The same character of hospital has been recommended for the New-York Hospital by the Supervising Surveyor, and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury.

THE CATLIN PAINTINGS.

The Joint Committee on the Library will to-morrow consider the proposition for the purchase of the famous Indian paintings by Catlin. The paintings are 600 in number, and their subjects embrace all phases of Indian life. The price asked is $108,000.

AMBULANCES TO BE SENT FOR THE WORLD WITNESSES.

The Wilson Committee is still seeking information under difficulties. The members thereof are sincerely desirous of ascertaining the truth of the allegations against the late Mr. Stevens, and, observing that the New-York *World* knows a great deal about the matter, they have made repeated efforts to secure the attendance of that concern as witnesses. But from the report of the Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms, sent in search of the missing gentlemen, it appears a fearful epidemic is prevailing about the establishment, and that the editor-in-chief, ensconced behind his brown-stone front, sends out word to the waiting messenger that he is sick, and inaccessible. Another one of the force sends a beseeching response by telegraph, that he "ain't the man," and the committee has finally been obliged to instruct the officers to bring everybody about the concern whose condition will bear transportation.

Dispatch to the Associated Press.

THE POLAND RESOLUTIONS.

No members of the House believe that the resolutions of the Poland Committee recommending the expulsion of Mr. Ames and Mr. Brooks, can secure even a majority of the House, much less the two-thirds vote required by the Constitution for such purpose. Some of the members of both political parties express the opinion that instead, a general resolution of censure will be passed, affecting all members of the House who were concerned in the Credit Mobilier operations. At least twenty gentlemen are prepared to speak on the subject. Everybody anticipates exciting proceedings next Tuesday.

WINDOW BUSINESS FOR THE INAUGURATION ACTIVE.

Thousands of persons in distant cities have engaged quarters at hotels and boarding-houses for inauguration week, and large sums have been paid for front rooms on Pennsylvania-avenue, from which to see the procession. The arrangements for the inauguration ceremonies are fully matured, and will be carried out upon a scale far exceeding any display heretofore attempted in the history of the Republic. There will be about fifty different military and civic organizations in procession, each preceded by a band of music, which will form a very fine parade.

THE BALL.

The inauguration ball, for which tickets are selling rapidly, will be the grandest ever given in this country. The building is the largest ever erected for such purpose, it being 350 feet in length by 150 feet in width, and its complete appointments, for comfort and convenience, are unsurpassed. The West Point and Naval cadets will attend the ball in force, as will numbers of the officers and members of the other military organizations. The President, Vice-President, Cabinet Ministers, Senators, Representatives, foreign Ministers, and distinguished civilians from all parts of the Union, will be in attendance. On the 5th of March the President, the Secretary of War, and the Secretary of the Navy, will review the West Point and Naval cadets. A portion of Pennsylvania-avenue will be assigned for their parade and manœuvres. As numerous volunteer organizations will be in attendance, it is probable that several of the broad avenues will be occupied by them in their competition drill. This will afford an opportunity to compare the West Point school with the volunteer system.

WIND-MILLERS AS RECTIFIERS.

The Internal Revenue office still has under consideration the appeal presented by importers of liquors against the ruling holding them to be rectifiers when they mix wines. The decision will be rendered in a day or two. The representatives of the importers have also had an interview with the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject.

THE SPANISH REPUBLIC.

George W. Downing, the well-known representative colored man, has written a letter saying the unexpected change of government in Spain should restrain for the present our Government from declaring belligerent rights to the Cuban patriots; that it refused to grant belligerent rights to them while Spain was a monarchy, upholding slavery, and perfidious in her course toward our Government; that the new Republic of Spain should be allowed reasonable time to act for freedom and Cuba; that we should be cautious not to embarrass the new ally to republicanism by prejudging her unfavorably; that, as republicanism is progressing with hopes of success in at least four nations of Europe, we should be careful not to cross and impede its progress in these countries as well as in Cuba and elsewhere. The letter has been written because action has been taken by colored men in different parts of the country on the simple announcement of an intention to issue a call for a national assembling of colored men in Washington on the 3d of March in favor of freedom in Cuba and the declaring of belligerent rights to the Cuban patriots. Though no formal call has been issued, a national assembly will meet to urge Spain to immediately free her slaves; to sympathize with Cuba; and to inaugurate further efforts to induce early action on the part of the incoming administration, to the end of securing all citizens of our country in their civil rights.

BANK TAXES.

Report of the Committee of Finance on Petitions for the Removal of Taxes.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Senator Morrill, of Vermont, recently made a report from the Committee of Finance on the petitions of bankers and merchants for the removal of all taxes whatever on State and national banking institutions. The committee express the opinion that no legislation is at present required on the subject, and ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the petitions. They say, in concluding their report:

It is argued that the removal of national taxes from banks would cheapen or lower the rate of interest paid by those who obtain loans from banks, but it is somewhat doubtful whether, or not, such a removal would make any appreciable difference to the advantage of the borrowers of banks. Banks by no means, as a class, are the controllers of the accumulated wealth of the leaders of money, but they are compelled to lend on as favorable terms as can be obtained elsewhere or their loanable funds will be idle. Banking institutions are intended to be, and are, established for the accommodation of the public; but their managers feel that their stockholders prefer large rather than small dividends, and therefore they seek the highest legal rates of interest compatible with the full employment of their capital. They will demand about the usual market rates. The gains of money in bank is not exempt from the universal law of supply and demand. Exemption from taxation would not increase the amount or diminish the demand. The rate of interest on capital available for use as money cannot be reduced except by competition, or except by increasing the amount to be loaned, or by diminishing the amount required by borrowers. Those who have money to lend, including the banks, will get the current rates for it. Though it costs the lender much or little, the price for its use will be regulated, not by the forbearance of the Government, but by the demand. It is believed by the committee, therefore, that the abandonment of national taxes upon national banks would not do so much in favor to their borrowers as to their stockholders, and the latter do not appear to be very greatly oppressed or restrained from receiving reasonable dividends. It is not even pretended that banks and bankers are not receiving ample profits from their business, and if it had been, the returns by the Controller of the Currency, showing dividends averaging a fraction over ten per cent. for several years past, with a constantly increasing surplus, would have refuted the pretense. It is very clear, while national banks can loan all their capital, two-thirds of their deposits, and all of their circulation, except their reserve, that the business of banking need not be unremunerative.

The taxes sought to be repealed on the capital, deposits, and circulation of State banks and bankers yielded for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1872, $4,628,229 14; the estimated decrease on account of deductions made by the act of June 6, 1872, is $625,000; there will remain an estimated yearly income of about $3,800,000; to which must be added a similar tax of about $6,000,000 paid by the national banks directly to the Treasury. It will be seen, therefore, that the total amount which it is asked to have surrendered is $9,800,000, or nearly $10,000,000. This may not appear a large sum to the banks, but it is much larger than can now be well spared for any purpose from the Treasury.

These petitions also refer to the question of refunding taxes on dividends, interest, and profits earned or added to the surplus of corporations during the last five months of the year 1870, but the committee refrain from expressing any opinion, further that to say, if all the schemes for refunding taxes levied during the hard necessities of the recent war were to be favorably considered, fresh war taxes would at once have to be again resorted to, or the treasury would become bankrupt.

BY MAIL AND TELEGRAPH.

The print cloths market in Providence, R. I., is quiet; sales of the week 6,300 pieces, at 7¼c. @ 7½c. for 64 by 64 squares.

An unoccupied wooden dwelling in Dorchester, Mass., known as the John B. Mears mansion, and owned by S. W. Carpenter, was burned on Saturday night. Loss, $6,000.

Maggie M'Laughlin, a wet-nurse in a private family, in Buffalo, while starting a fire in a sick-room, yesterday, at noon, set fire to her clothes and burned to death before assistance could be rendered.

Major Pierce, accompanied by the Harbor Commissioners, left Boston, last night, for Washington, for the purpose of consulting with the President and Massachusetts Congressmen relative to appropriations for the Boston harbor and the Boston new post-office.

ALBANY PENITENTIARY.

History of the Institution—Its Industrial Features—Interior of the Prison—Political vs. Business Management.

From Our Own Correspondent.

ALBANY, Saturday, Feb. 22, 1873.

Presuming, for the sake of convenience, that the intelligent reader has no personal experience of penitentiaries, and is not informed wherein they differ from other correctional institutions, I shall premise by explaining the distinction between an ordinary penitentiary and a State prison, and if the reader aforesaid be already so well acquainted with penal establishments that this explanation can add nothing to his knowledge, the excuse for offering it is that this same question, with others of cognate character, was the subject of serious debate among the citizens of Albany County when they were considering the propriety of building the institution herein treated of, some thirty years ago. A penitentiary, then, is a correctional establishment for the confinement of criminals guilty of the lesser offenses against society, while a State prison is for those convicted of crimes of a graver character and subject to more severe penalties; the former is a county institution, supported at the expense of the county wherein it may be situated, governed by the Supervisors of the county, and receiving only criminals convicted in the county; a State prison receives prisoners from all parts of the State, and is a general charge upon it. Any person convicted of a felony for which the penalty is not less than one year's imprisonment, goes to State prison; for any lesser offense he goes to the penitentiary. To this general rule there are certain exceptions, as regards the Albany institution, which will be mentioned hereafter.

THE HISTORY OF THE PENITENTIARY.

The history of the penitentiary has been made the subject of a good-sized book, now before me, but it is also contained in the long series of its annual reports, extending from 1848 to 1872, and which have been made yearly to the Supervisors of Albany County. Previous to the year first named, the law-abiding portion of this community had bothered itself very little with the law-breaking portion of it. Vagrants, petty thieves, and other troublesome persons had been herded together in a tumble-down old building, which served as the county jail, there to amuse themselves as they thought fit. While the city was small this plan worked well enough; that is to say, the prisoners were so few in number that their cost of maintenance did not appreciably increase the county taxes. But it happened one year that an entirely new Board of Supervisors was elected, and desiring to learn something of their duties, they began an examination of the county finances. It was at once discovered that the "jail" had grown to be an extravagantly costly institution; more expensive than any other in the county government, and that it threatened to become still more so. A committee was thereupon appointed to inquire into the best means for remedying the evil. They reported in favor of a penitentiary, wherein offenders would be placed under reformatory influences, and at the same time be put to such industrial occupations as would render the institution self-sustaining. They submitted a general plan for the proposed institution, and advised that Mr. Amos Pillsbury should be called to take charge of the work. Mr. Pillsbury's father was one of the best prison governors in the country. He had charge of the Connecticut State Prison, and under his management had made it a profitable institution to the State. His son had been trained in this school, and the committee thought he would be the best person to take charge of the new project. Their suggestions were adopted. Mr. Amos Pillsbury was tendered the place of Superintendent, and he has held it from that time down to within a week past, when the infirmities of age compelled him to resign. His son, Mr. Louis Pillsbury, has just been installed in his place.

The work of building the penitentiary was done largely by the prisoners then confined in the jail, on plans prepared by Mr. Pillsbury himself. The building stands on an eminence in the south-west suburb of the city; it is a castellated structure, with a central hall and extensive wings, and was at first surrounded by a high wall only, but work-shops and other buildings now inclose the courtyard. The first year after it was opened for the reception of prisoners, viz., 1848-9, its expenses exceeded the receipts by $3,000; from that time to the present, with the exception of the year 1857, when the great financial panic paralyzed industry, it has never failed to pay into the county treasury a large profit over all expenses. The annual income over expenditures has been as follows:

From 1849 to 1859	$20,422
From 1859 to 1869	134,059
From 1869 to 1873	48 319
Total	$202,800

This sum does not, of course, represent the profits of the penitentiary. Large sums of it have been devoted to enlarging and improving the building, constructing work-shops, &c. But after all these expenses were paid, a considerable sum of clear profit remains. The buildings, tools, machinery, &c., are good for the amount of their cost, and the penitentiary has no debts.

INDUSTRIAL FEATURES OF THE INSTITUTION.

The trades carried on at the Penitentiary have been of various kinds. In the earlier years of its history much was done in making baskets, cane-chair seats, covering demijohns, carpentering, and the manufacture of coarse boots and shoes for the Southern negroes. The latter was the principal branch of trade pursued, but the war put an end to it completely. Since then the trade has revived, and is now almost the sole occupation of the prisoners. The market has extended largely, and the boots manufactured are sent all over the country. All the work is done on contract, the contractors paying so much per day for each man employed; and so satisfactory has been the management of the prison, that for many years past, as the institution has become known to traders, more work has been offered than could be taken.

From the tabular statement of annual receipts and expenditures I see that the largest gains have been made by it since the year 1863, when they jumped from $3,515, in the preceding year, to $17,524. This large increase is attributable to the fact that in the Summer of 1862 the Federal Government made arrangements with the Albany county authorities to send criminals, convicted under United States law, to what had become recognized as "the model prison." A large number of prisoners were immediately transferred from the old District of Columbia Prison, and others have been sent as convicted. Thus it was that the "Kuklux" prisoners were sent here, and about fifty of them still remain. The Government pays $1 50 weekly for each prisoner's board, but the special advantage to the Penitentiary was that they were all "long term" men, and therefore steady workers. Convicts are also received from seventeen counties of this State, under a special act of the Legislature, which permits the sending of prisoners to the Penitentiary for terms not exceeding five years, nor less than sixty days. Each county pays for the board of its own criminals.

Though the largest yearly profits have been made since these arrangements went into effect, it should not be forgotten that the Penitentiary made yearly profits of several thousand dollars over expenses, when it had only the prisoners from Albany County in it, and all these for short terms. But even with its present advantages over a purely county institution, it has drawbacks to its profitable management from which our State prisons are entirely free. Three-quarters of the total number of its inmates are sent for terms under six months; a large number of these are for three months, and the number of "ten-day" men is also large. The latter are a burden, pure and simple, on the institution. They nearly always come in drunk, always ragged, and frequently so filthy that they have to be kept apart from the other prisoners, or the whole prison would be infected. By the time they have grown sober, been thoroughly washed, and set on their legs again, their term is up, and they go out rejoicing, frequently with an entirely new suit. In about three weeks or a month they reappear in their former glorious condition, and the process has to be repeated.

And with regard to the prisoners confined for other periods under six months, it will readily be seen that the work they can do must necessarily be less efficient, and the quantity done more uncertain, than if they were all confined for long terms, as is the case with the inmates of our State prisons. Still, the Albany Penitentiary yearly pays its own expenses, and turns over a handsome profit to the county treasury; while our State prisons as regularly call for an annual appropriation of nearly half a million dollars for their support. Last year the sum required was $688,448, sufficient, says the State Controller in his report, to maintain every prison in complete idleness. There must be some cause for this striking difference, and it is not far to seek; but meantime we have reached the door of the Penitentiary.

THE INTERIOR OF THE PRISON.

Mr. Louis Pillsbury, the new Superintendent, opened the door himself, and on learning the object of the visit, invited me into his office. It was the dinner hour, and we passed the time till it was over in conversation on the affairs of the prison. At 12½ o'clock the Superintendent rose, remarking that it was time for the "march out," and led the way to the guard and visitors' room, which commanded a view of the courtyard and its surrounding workshops. The next instant a door below us opened, the chief warden stepped out and took his stand with military precision a few paces off. He was followed by an officer, who, as he passed, handed him a key, and the first gang of prisoners came out. They marched in single file, each one with his left arm crossing his chest, his right hand on the shoulder of the man in front of him. All looked straight forward, and no man spoke a word. Gang after gang followed in the same order, filing off to their several workshops. The prisoners were coarse woollen pants, jackets of the same material, of dark gray, and navy caps. As is generally the case with men of their class, they were all of low stature, except here and there where a gaunt, cadaverous-looking Kuklux prisoner towered above the crowd. Of these I should say that I have seldom seen more utterly wretched specimens of men than they were. Their lank, sharp features spoke of a life of wretchedness and privation, and their tall forms seemed nothing but the skeletons of men. These were the "poor whites" of the South, and I could quite believe in the opinion expressed of them by Mr. Pillsbury, that the majority of those in the prison were probably better fed, better clothed, and better lodged than they had ever been before.

As the prisoners passed, the Superintendent pointed out the specially distinguished among them. "That's 'One-Armed Berry,' the famous rebel guerrilla," said he, as a tall, grim-looking man appeared. "That gray-headed old man is a forger; there's another Kuklux, son of a clergyman; here's our Washington friends," (a number of negroes); "they're not often ugly, but very tricky; there's another Kuklux; he's six feet seven inches high, built like a mateh; that club-footed boy, Talbot, comes from New-York." This last I recognized as one of that class known as "wharf-rats," who smuggle cigars and liquors from the Havana steamers. I remember seeing him before Commissioner Shields, when he was arrested, on which occasion he "cheeked" the Commissioner. His captors complained that he gave them a great deal of trouble, and was quite a desperate character; but he has behaved very well in confinement, and will soon be released.

THE WORK-SHOPS.

The work-shops, as I have said, inclose three sides of the court-yard. Descending into this, where a number of "short-term" men, probably sent up for ten days, are shovelling snow into immense heaps, the Superintendent crosses to Shoe-shop No. 1. The sentry up in his covered gallery, at the corner of the building, stops in his march, and rests his Spencer rifle, as he watches us cross the yard; the men shovelling snow eye us under their brows, but make no sign; we enter the first shop, but not one of the many men turns his head at our entry. The sound of the human voice is but rarely heard in these prison shops. The men are all at their benches, hammering, fitting, lasting, smoothing the leather, cutting, polishing, and putting a boot through the innumerable processes it undergoes when made by machinery; and all in perfect silence. Only the men engaged in lasting sit to their work; the others stand. The machine for trimming the heels of the boots, and those for sewing and rivetting the soles to the uppers, require experienced management, and only long-term men are put to them. For many of the other processes, a few weeks' training suffices. Several hundred pairs per day are turned out. The contractors are a New-York company, doing business in Murray-street. Having an idea that only work of a coarse kind could be done by this convict labor, I was surprised to see the large quantities of goods of fine class which were manufactured here. The boots are nearly all women's and children's, and many a careful mother when buying boots for herself or her little ones may get an article which has passed from the hands of a petty thief into those of a burglar, been by him transferred to a forger, and perhaps been finished by a murderer, before it took the dainty shape in which the affable store clerk presents it to her.

POLITICAL VS. BUSINESS MANAGEMENT.

Little more remains to be said, and I shall only add a few words on the subject of our State Prisons' management as compared with that of the Albany Penitentiary. Though the discipline maintained at the latter is severe, it is salutary; and the fullest experience demonstrates that it is much better for the prisoners. Loosely managed correctional institutions are really not correctional at all; but efficient management has never been maintained, and, indeed, is incompatible with frequent change in the chief officer. The secret of the success of the institution here is simple; the people of Albany have never permitted party politics to interfere with its management. Office-seekers have long been warned off the Penitentiary grounds. The people secured a good officer, eminently qualified for his post, and they kept him there for twenty-seven years. They gave him full power to manage the prison, and to choose his subordinates; and none were tested by any other standard than fitness for the duties they were paid to perform. Gen. Pillsbury resigned his post as Chief of Police in New-York, because he saw that nothing could be done in that office while party politics ruled it; and he came back to Albany, where they did not rule, at least in his department. But our State Prisons suffer under this political scourge. When Gen. Pillsbury visited Sing Sing in 1863, at Gov. Morgan's request, he found that institution "in an unsatisfactory condition." He saw the Superintendent, a Mr. Forrest, "who received him coolly." "I explained that I came at your request," writes Gen. Pilsbury to the Governor, "and he seemed much annoyed. He remarked that the inspectors were elected by the people and were responsible to the people." Mr. Forrest put the case in a nutshell. He probably came into his office at the beginning of the year, and went out at the end of it, as he expected to. Meantime the prison managed itself. The results of State Prison management under this excellent system we see by the following table. As an instructive commentary, the figures from the Albany Penitentiary are placed beside it:

STATE PRISONS. They cost the state, in		ALBANY PENITENTIARY. Its income over expenses was, in	
1867	$286,874	1867	$21,284
1868	512,542	1868	20,525
1869	535,724	1869	16,153
1870	461,304	1870	18,122
1871	470,309	1871	20,258
1872	485,581	1872	27,929

In reading this exhibit it should not be forgotten that no man goes to a State prison for less than a year, a period sufficient on Gen. Pillsbury's principles of management for him to earn more than his expenses, while hundreds are sent to the Penitentiary for such short terms that they are nothing but a burden on it.

The people of Albany are fully sensible of the worth of the man who has served them so long and faithfully. None stands higher in their estimation than he, and now that he has given up the office in which he has grown gray and feeble, they cheerfully voted him a gift of $15,000 from the profits of the institution of which he had the care, and unanimously appointed his son to succeed him.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

Several Stores Burned in Painted Post, N. Y.

ELMIRA, N. Y., Feb. 23.—About 7½ o'clock this evening a fire was discovered in the saloon of Reinard Emmerson, on the south side of Maine-street, in Painted Post, near Corning. The fire extended to the buildings occupied by Carpenter's saloon, Baker's shoe-store, and Perrenbaugh's harness-shop. The *Times* office, James Welder's blacksmith-shop, H. Bonham's wagon-shop, Owne's blacksmith-shop, R. Bonham's livery-stables, Hurd's wagon-shop, Stout's blacksmith and wagon-shop; also to the Empire Block which contained the dry-goods store of Parkhurst & Co., R. P. Bader's grocery, Robinson & French's hard-ware store, and the Empire House, (Joseph Burst, proprietor.) All were destroyed. The total loss will reach $25,000.

A $40,000 Fire in Washington.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 23.—The fancy-goods store of Gotzleib & Behrends, on Seventh-street, near I, took fire about 9½ to-night. A very high wind was blowing at the time, and fears were entertained of an extensive conflagration, but the fire was soon got under control. The water froze as soon as it fell, and the firemen and police were covered with ice. The loss is estimated at $40,000, and was principally caused by water and smoke. Fully insured.

THE WEATHER.

Synopsis and Probabilities.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24—1:10 A. M.—The barometer continues low, but is slowly rising, over New-England and the Middle Atlantic coast. Fresh north and west winds, with clear weather, prevail from Lake Michigan, southward to the Gulf, and eastward to the Atlantic coast. The highest barometer is over Missouri and the Lower Ohio, and clear weather, with light winds, prevail throughout the Mississippi Valley. The temperature is below zero over the lower lake region, and has fallen very generally throughout the Atlantic, and Gulf States, but has risen from the Ohio Valley, north and west. The barometer has fallen rapidly, with brisk south-west winds and rain in Northern California, and, probably, Oregon. The norther which prevailed Sunday morning in Texas is now diminishing.

PROBABILITIES.

For Monday, in New-England and the Middle States, rising barometer, somewhat lower temperature, westerly winds, and clear weather; for the South Atlantic and Eastern Gulf, north and west winds and clear weather, without much warmer temperature; over the lake region and Ohio Valley somewhat warmer, clear weather and southwesterly winds during Monday night; in the Missouri and Upper Mississippi valleys falling barometer, veering temperature preceding a storm. Centre midnight reports are missing from Florida and Texas.

Heavy Snow in the East and North.

RUTLAND, Vt., Feb. 23.—The recent snow-storm, followed, as it has been, by fearful winds, was the worst of the season. The mail train from Boston, over the Rutland Road, which left Boston on Friday morning, arrived here twenty-four hours late. The Saturday morning mail train over the same route is thirty-eight hours late.

KINGSTON, N. Y., Feb. 23.—The snow-storm of Friday was followed by extremely cold weather and high winds, which caused deep snow-drifts, making bad work with roads and railroads. No trains have been able to force their way to Stamford, the present western terminus of the New-York, Kingston, and Syracuse Railroad, since Friday, on account of drifts. The country roads, are blocked and travel is much impeded. The thermometer now marks zero, and the weather is growing colder. There is every indication of another storm.

LEWISTON, Me., Feb. 23.—Last night the wind blew heavily, and piled the snow in fearful drifts. People remained within doors to-day, fairly snow bound. Last evening the train for Bath was stopped by a drift below Crowley, and stayed all night. Yesterday's Farmington train reached there at 1 o'clock to-day, and the two trains with four engines here at 3½ P. M. The Farmington trains encountered drifts fifteen feet deep.

AUGUSTA, Me., Feb. 23.—All the trains on the Maine Central Railroad were very much delayed yesterday and to-day on account of the severe snow-storm of Friday night. Strong wind has prevailed since yesterday, and the snow is drifted very badly. No trains have gone to Bangor from here since Friday. The Pullman train which left Boston on Friday evening and passed here at 3 o'clock P. M. on Saturday going east, got stuck in the snow, near Waterville, with five engines and a snow-plow, and was obliged to remain there till 1 o'clock to-day, when it succeeded in getting started again. At 11 o'clock P. M. it was at Burnham, a station forty miles west of Bangor. All of yesterday's trains for Bangor are behind it. The mail train from Boston yesterday arrived here at 4 o'clock this morning, twelve hours late. The railroad officials say this is the worst time for running trains they have experienced for years. The wind abated at sunset, and it is probable the trains will be more regular to-morrow.

Cold Weather at Chicago.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 23.—The weather last night and to-day was intensely cold. The thermometer this morning at the Government observatory, was 11° below zero. In other localities it ranged from 15° to 20° below zero. The weather is now moderating, and at 10 o'clock P. M. the thermometer was 9° above zero.

City Meteorological Report.

The following record will show the changes in the temperature during the last twenty-four hours, as recorded at Hudnut's drug-store, No. 218 Broadway:

3 A. M.	14°	3 P. M.	19°
6 A. M.	12°	6 P. M.	15°
9 A. M.	14°	9 P. M.	9°
12 M.	15°	10 P. M.	9°

Average, 13½°.

Seizure of a Local Option Meeting by Its Foes.

PITTSBURG, Penn., Feb. 23.—A mass meeting of the friends of the local-option liquor law was called for last evening in the City Hall. The opponents of the law outnumbered its friends, and great disorder prevailed. An opposition meeting was organized. The friends of the Local Option law vainly endeavored to speak, the uproar drowning their voices. They finally abandoned the hall, and proceeded to the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association and organized.

Two Baggage Cars and a Smoking-Car Down an Embankment.

RUTLAND, Vt., Feb. 23.—The train due in Rutland at 9 o'clock Saturday evening, over the Rensselaer and Saratoga road, met with a serious accident about two miles south of Whitehall, caused by a broken rail. A national express car, two baggage cars, and a smoking-car were thrown down an embankment. No one was hurt, though there were some narrow escapes.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Probable Change of Ministry in Spain—Reception by the American Minister—Carlist Operations.

MADRID, Feb. 23.—Changes in the Ministry are expected. It is probable that Chao will be Minister of Finance, Suances Minister of Marine, Abarzuza Minister of Colonies, and Snouville, (Novillas?) Minister of War.

Separate meetings of the Republican and Radical Deputies in the Assembly were held yesterday, followed by a council of the Ministry, to solve the Ministerial crisis. The subject was subsequently considered at a sitting of the Assembly in the evening. It is probable that these deliberations will results in the formation of a Cabinet wholly Republican, the resolutions adopted by the Assembly indicating its preference for a homogeneous Ministry.

Gen. Sickles, the American Minister, gave a reception last night, which was attended by Señor Castelar, the leading diplomatists and men of letters in the city, and several representatives of the Spanish nobility. The reception was succeeded by a ball given to the Diplomatic Corps, which lasted until 4 o'clock this morning.

The politicians present at the festivities discussed the state of Spain with the American Minister, who recommended vigilance, prudence, energy, and patriotism. The present, he said, was a critical moment. He considered it unwise to allow the people to bear arms until they had received a military organization. The people appeared to know their rights; they must, as soon as possible, learn their duties as citizens; then they would be enabled to contribute to the happiness and prosper

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE LIFE OF CHARLES DICKENS. By JOHN FORSTER. Vol. II., 1842-1852. 12mo. pp. 491. Philadelphia: J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO.

We have not been in haste to notice this volume, for two reasons: It cannot be called a new book, its contents having almost as little novelty as interest; and we waited opportunity to read the whole of it carefully. It is not always—perhaps not often—that a critic reads every page of a book upon which he is called to pass judgment—that is hardly necessary; but we have been so far superfluous in regard to this one, hoping, and honestly seeking, to better our former opinion of the subject and of the author. Our effort has been in vain. The second volume of Mr. Forster's work is somewhat less aggressively offensive than the first was in many passages; but it is, therefore, somewhat less interesting. For interest is of various kinds: and that which irritates or even wounds us may have more power to compel our attention than that which is tamely inoffensive.

Mr. Forster's second installment of his account of Dickens' life—or rather of that life in so far as it was connected with John Forster—is not exactly dull, but it is generally vapid, often inflated, and always pretentious. It shows us Mr. Dickens in the full maturity of his powers, from his thirtieth to his fortieth year, the decade of his most considerable intellectual activity. In that period he produced the *American Notes*, the *Christmas Carol*, *Dombey & Son*, and *David Copperfield*; entered upon the editorship of the *Daily News*, and established *All the Year Round*. Then, too, he began those dramatic performances which, perhaps, showed his intellectual and personal qualities in their best phases. Indeed, the most interesting passage in this volume is one from which we learn that accident determined that Dickens should be a humorous writer, instead of a great comic actor—for a great actor he certainly would have been—and it is a point which is at least yet in dispute whether the world lost or gained by the chance which turned him from the stage to literature. When he was about twenty years old, excited by the performances of Charles Mathews, he wrote a letter to Bartley, then manager of Covent Garden, which procured him an invitation to exhibit himself on a certain day, in any one of Mathews' parts, to Bartley and Charles Kemble. A severe cold and a swelled face prevented him from keeping the appointment; and as about that time he began to have success as a reporter, he gradually left off turning his thoughts to the stage, and finally gave up the notion altogether. But he had practiced immensely, even to such details as walking in and out, and sitting down in a chair, often working in this way five or six hours in a day, and he learned many parts. Referring to this in a letter, (to Mr. Forster, of course,) he says, in his enormously *self* way: "If you think Macready would be interested in this strange news from the South, tell it him. Fancy Bartley or Charles Kemble *now!*" The emphasis, implying the manner in which Bartley and Kemble would be overwhelmed and crushed, is Dickens' own.

This revelation is not at all surprising, for Dickens was in all things an actor, even when writing a letter; an actor, too, of farce and burlesque; and in his latest years, when reading his own works, his whole appearance was that of an English comic actor, and one of not the highest refinement of manner. And to tell the plain truth, as Mr. Forster's work goes on, he makes more and more painfully apparent that innate intellectual and personal vulgarity which was one of the most salient traits of Mr. Dickens' character, and which he exhibited most strongly in his attempts to portray ladies and gentlemen, and in his sentiment, particularly in those sickly pests of sentimental literature, Little Nell and Tiny Tim. Compared with those characters, his vulgar people, such as the Wellers, old and young, although impossible as human beings, have dignity and respectability, in addition to their exquisite, although farcical and extravagant humor. The tone of his mind is indicated by many passages in letters and notes which Mr. Forster prints, apparently for no other reason than that they were addressed to himself, so utterly are they devoid of any real interest. He is incessantly making allusions to his own characters. He cannot write a little note about leaving home or going to dinner without saying: "I leave Betsey Prig, as you know, so don't make a scruple about leaving Mrs. Harris." He must always write in superlatives: "I am distractingly late, but I look at the sky, think of Hampstead, and feel hideously tempted." And he has in excess that triviality of vulgarity which manifests itself in such writing as: "November blasts! Why, it's the warmest, most genial, most intensely bland, so delicious, growing, springy, songster-of-the-grovy, bursting-forth-of-the buddy day as ever was." These examples of a style tolerable enough in a school-boy, occur on two contiguous pages. All such foolish stuff might well have been omitted, but Mr. Forster has sprinkled it freely through this volume; and possibly he did so mistaking it for the easy and graceful unbending of a mentally high-toned man. He was miserably mistaken. Such evidences of weakness a friendly hand should have concealed. "They should have wiped it up," says Sterne, "and said nothing about it."

That such a man should have undertaken to pass an opinion upon the manners of society in this country, or any other, is, perhaps, not surprising; but it is irritating. He was kind enough to say after his second visit here, and Mr. Forster is solicitous enough to go out of his way to tell us that he said, (in a letter to Mr. Forster, of course,) "I see *great* changes for the better socially. Politically, no. * * * Socially, the change in manners is remarkable. There is much greater politeness and forbearance in all ways." Charles Dickens as a social Aristarchus is, indeed, an amusing character; and this he showed by the opinion he expresses. For if there is one social fact more certain than another, it is that within the last twenty-five years the tone of our society has lowered, not less in manners than in morals. Simplicity, courtesy of manner, politeness founded upon a constant consideration for others, were far more common among our people of all conditions at Mr. Dickens' first visit than at his second.

None of his readers can have failed to notice the queer low-sounding names that Dickens chose for his principal characters, and thus for his books; and among the revelations of Mr. Forster's memoir is that these unpleasant, but utterly unmeaning names, were painfully sought out or made up. Thus, for instance, *Martin Chuzzlewit* was first Martin Sweezleden, then Martin Sweezleback, then became Sweezlewag, which passed into Chuzzletoe, and successively into Chuzzleboy, Chubblewig, and Chuzzlewig, and at last after more hesitation and discussion, into *Chuzzlewit*. And so he afterward writes to Forster about a new work: "My mind running like a high sea on names—not satisfied yet, though." The issue was that very flat and insignificant name, *David Copperfield*. Surely, this is very poor fooling. In such straits, Mr. Dickens might advantageously have called upon his Hercules and mentor, Mr. Forster, to whom he seems to have been constantly running, like a helpless child, crying out at one time, "Your kind help is invoked. What do you think?" and at another, "Advise! advise!" His helplessness, his apparent readiness to ask for aid, the perplexity and distraction of mind that he seems to have suffered in the production of his books would almost lead us to accept Cruikshanks' story that he, George, was not only the designer of the illustrations to *Oliver Twist*, but the contriver of the story and the situations. But Mr. Forster, determined to leave no removable ground for supposing that Mr. Dickens was helped by any one but himself, publishes a fac simile of a letter from the author to the caricaturist which seems to place the question beyond a doubt. Dickens did not see the majority of the plates until they were ready for the booksellers, and one of them at least was so unsatisfactory to him that he requests it may be designed and etched again. The story about Mr. Cruikshanks' share in the book is in itself extremely improbable, and must now be set aside as incredible. The motive for setting it afloat it is not easy to divine. We can only regret that the estimable artist seems to have lent himself to the deceit. We should be much more inclined to believe that it was upon the suggestion of some friend that Mr. Dickens attempted to revive Mrs. Gamp in a description of the theatrical tour on which he and some of his friends went off. The sketch was not published, but Mr. Forster now prints it. It is only pretty good in some passages, and is generally Sairey with her spirit, mixed with a great deal more water than she would be "dispoged" to have. The failure is almost as conspicuous as the attempt to revive Mr. Pickwick and Sam Weller to give interest to the dull ticking of *Master Humphrey's Clock*. *Non bis in idem* seems to be the rule absolute in literature, except in the case of the greatest masters. Shakespeare could carry Mrs. Quickly and Falstaff and Henry V. through three plays, and make them great in all; but such a feat is the rarest in the history of literature.

And this reminds us of a singularly unfortunate Shakespearean criticism on the part of Mr. Dickens, which appears in one of his letters to Mr. Forster. "What do you say," he writes, "to 'take arms against a sea of troubles,' having been originally written '*make* arms,' which is the action of swimming. It would get rid of a horrible grievance in the figure, and make it plain and apt." Whatever may be the condition of the text as it stands in the old editions, this is surely one of the feeblest among the many feeble attempts to change it. But no change is needed; nor is there any grievance in the figure, as it would seem that a man like Dickens should have seen. *Hamlet* does not speak of taking arms against a sea; but against troubles, a sea of them. As we are writing of criticism, we take pleasure in thanking Mr. Forster, to whom we have so little occasion to be thankful, for one good criticism. He speaks of M. Taine as "a trained and skillful French critic, who has been able to pass under review the whole of English literature without any apparent sense or understanding of one of its most important, as well as richest, elements. A man without the perception of humor taking English prose literature in hand can of course set about it only in one way." That way, as Mr. Forster goes on to show, was totally inadequate; and, indeed, M. Taine is altogether unable to appreciate the humorous side of Shakespeare and of Scott, and Dickens, being only a humorist, fails to appreciate him at all.

Of Mr. Dickens' ability to appreciate literary work of a higher class than his own, Mr. Forster furnishes us with one other example which is worse than the "sea of troubles." It is this passage about Hawthorne: "The story extremely good indeed; but all the strongest things of which it is capable missed. It shows just how far that kind of power can go. It is more like a note of an idea than anything else. It seems to me as if it were written by somebody who lived next door to the people, rather than inside of 'em." This about Hawthorne, the master of psychological insight, by Dickens, who never made anything but a caricature or a monster in his life! And "that kind of power" is exquisite. Thus, after all Mr. Forster's egoism and shortcomings, we are getting a fair notion of what Charles Dickens was—a humorist, a vulgar man intellectually and personally, but one full of vitality and kindness, and who, with all his snobbishness, had the good of his fellow-creatures, and particularly of the poor, really at heart. For that inherent merit, he may be forgiven much.

REASON VERSUS THE SWORD. By JOHN M. WASHBURN. New-York: Published for the Proprietors, by G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS. 1873.

The object of Mr. Washburn's volume is to prove that man has no right to take human life, and that war is a violation of the laws of nature and of revelation, and destructive of the right of self-government. It is the familiar argument of the Peace Society, set forth at great length and with certain additions. That it will gain many converts to the cause which the author has at heart is scarcely probable, especially as he has added new dogmas which will repel even the old-fashioned members of the Peace Society. Among them are the doctrines that patriotism is not a virtue, and that cowardice is not a vice. Of the former Mr. Washburn says: "Patriotism also comes to us from heathen parentage, unwashed and unbaptized, to take rank with the human-made virtues. For nowhere can it find a word of commendation from the Christian Scriptures. It is not, therefore, a Christian virtue, and so its non-exercise can take nothing from the Christian character." It is rather a loss of time to write a book in defense of cowardice and in opposition to patriotism.

LITTLE HODGE. By the author of "Ginx's Baby." New-York: DODD & MEAD. 1873.

Mr. Jenkins is a signal instance of an author who does not know when he has exhausted a good idea. *Ginx's Baby* was by no means a great satire; but it was fresh, original, well sustained, and frequently brilliant. Encouraged by its success, he followed it with another work upon precisely the same plan—*Lord Bantam*. This had, also, its obvious merits, though it fell much below the author's first book in nearly all respects. He ought to have discovered from the criticisms upon *Lord Bantam*, that he had exhausted the vein which he had worked so vigorously, but it seems that he did not perceive the fact. Here he is again, with the same stock in trade which he has offered the public twice before. His *Little Hodge* is meant to depict the miseries and difficulties of the average English peasant; but, not only is it constructed upon precisely the same plan as its two literary predecessors, but it is as inferior to *Lord Bantam*, as the latter was to *Ginx's Baby*.

With very little of the wit and sarcasm that marked his first book, Mr. Jenkins here undertakes to show that the condition of the ignorant farm-hand, oppressed by cruel landlords, and weighted with hopeless poverty, admits of only one remedy—emigration. The sort of emigration which he favors is, however, of a peculiar type. He has heard of the success of the Children's Aid Society in this City, which has sent hundreds of homeless children to the West, and he proposes to apply the same remedy to the ills of the British farm-laborer. After describing the sufferings of improbable peasants under nearly impossible landlords, he introduces to his readers a wholly preposterous American, who visits England in order to collect juvenile recruits for philanthropic colonies in America. This person, who is the traditional stage Yankee, with the addition of humanitarian and evangelical views, is warmly welcomed by both landlord and peasant, and completely solves the social problem proposed by Mr. Jenkins, by carrying off all the small boys of the country.

Had Mr. Jenkins frankly entitled his book, a scheme for ridding England of the superfluous small boy, his plan would have been at least an intelligible one. As it is, he proposes, under the plea of improving the condition of the British peasant, to totally abolish him in the course of one or two generations. This will hardly be accepted as sound political economy, and there cannot be much difference of opinion as to the value of a weak and dull story written to promote so impracticable and undesirable an end.

MEMOIRS OF A MARYLAND VOLUNTEER. WAR WITH MEXICO IN THE YEARS 1846-7-8. By JOHN R. KENLY. Philadelphia: J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO. 1873.

The civil war, with its tremendous battles, has so entirely eclipsed the petty skirmishes of the Mexican war that the latter is now rarely mentioned. There was, however, much gallantry displayed by the troops of Taylor and Scott, and an element of romance in the marches to Monterey and Mexico, which ought not to be forgotten. Mr. Kenly was not only with Taylor until the capture of Monterey, but subsequently accompanied Gen. Scott in his campaign, and "reveled" with him in the halls of the Montezumas—as the recruiting officers used to say. He gives a graphic and readable account of his adventures, and his book is not without value as a description of the most interesting parts of Mexico.

PHILIP EARNSCLIFFE; OR, THE MORALS OF MAY FAIR. By MRS ANNIE EDWARDS. New-York: SHELDON & CO., 1873.

Mrs. Edwards' later novels have attained a desired popularity in this country, and, therefore, the republication of her earlier works naturally follows. *Philip Earnscliffe* was the first novel which attracted attention to Mrs. Edwards. Messrs. Sheldon & Co. have reissued it, but without a word to show that it is not the author's latest work. This is unjust to the author, for it is so much inferior to her other novels, that those who fancy it to be her most recent effort will accuse her of having fallen far below her own standard.

Scenes from Real Life.

BY A VISITOR OF THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY.

During the past month, in addition to other duties, I have visited a number of reported destitute families, represented in five of the industrial schools.

In the rear of No. 101 Tenth-avenue, a father, mother, and three children, with an occasional extra lodger, have subsisted without a bedstead, bed, or bedding; this family was literally out of doors, when the society's attention was called to them; they were assisted to get into their present room, and a teacher in one of the schools had a piece of matting given her, which she donated to this family, for a covering for their floor; this they used for a bed instead of for a floor-covering; recently, however, I have bought a bedstead and mattress for them, and interested some ladies in their behalf, who have given them pillows, blankets, &c. Articles of food have also been given them; two of their children have attended the Sixteenth Ward school very regularly during the Winter.

In November last seven children became half orphans; the eldest was a daughter but sixteen years of age. The mother, during her lifetime, was an industrious, hard-working woman; the father, a day-laborer, was at the time of his wife's death, out of work, and has been unable to find employment all Winter. The daughter seemed reluctant to have the family broken up, and said she would do the best that she could, if a little aid could be rendered; so through the agency of the society, direct and indirect, this family of little ones has been sheltered and partially fed. The daughter has faithfully fulfilled her duties, and according to the best of her ability acted the part of a mother. Four of these children are in the Sixteenth Ward school. As soon as the frost is out of the ground, the father will resume work, and says that he shall be able then to pay his rent and support his family.

In Thirty-ninth-street, visited a widow and two daughters. The mother is a cripple, and one daughter, about twenty years of age, has been confined to her bed, for eight months, with the rheumatism; she has been a great, but patient sufferer. They were absolutely without money or food, and the daughter was pining away, for want of medical aid and little delicacies suited to the sick-chamber. Relief, in the way of groceries, camphorated oil, Peruvian bark, &c., were given them, to the extent of our limited means.

In Forsyth-street a family was found absolutely in want of everything in the grocery line, and also destitute of fuel. This was one of the many cases of the worthy poor, who are reluctant to make their wants known. The father has been a clerk; is said to be a good penman and accountant; but for several months has been out of employment. The children have been in the Fourteenth Ward Industrial School about four years, but the family never before wanted aid. This season, however, the mother was compelled to send a note to the childrens' teacher, saying, "My children have to go to school this morning without anything to eat!" One of the sons is cash boy at Stewart's. His wages are $4 a week, which is all the income they have had for several months toward paying $9 a month rent and supporting a family of six persons. When first visited the mother was settling down into despondency and despair. No wonder, with all that she had on her hard work, she was called on thus to suffer and endure. Their immediate wants were supplied, heartfelt gratitude was expressed, and hope seemed again to beam on the countenance of this young mother.

In Mott-street a family resides, in whose behalf on account of three children, the teacher of the Fourteenth Ward school felt a deep interest; they were absolutely without a mouthful of food, or a piece of coal. Shivering over a stove, with a few pieces of coke, the coldest day of the season, sat an old grandmother, eighty years of age. The Sisters of Charity called but once on this family during the Winter, and did for them—well, just nothing at all. An appeal was made to Rev. Father ——, and he commanded the mother to "go take her children out of that hole of Hell," referring to the Fourteenth Ward Industrial School. On account of the children, assistance was rendered. This case, I subsequently learned, is one of those where children would be better off if they had no parents.

In Spring-street an American family was found, destitute of everything; and having no income, relief was given.

In Elizabeth-street I found a poor German woman; her husband became insane and was sent to the asylum. One day he was permitted to walk out, but never returned. What became of him remains a mystery. The mother is quite an invalid; she gets sewing from a shop, making good vests for only twenty-five cents. When she works fourteen days, she told me that she could earn only about $3. She has children in the Fourteenth Ward Industrial School), and was deemed worthy of a little aid.

These are a few of many similar cases. It is conceded by all charitable associations that the present Winter is an unprecedented one for the number of men out of employment. Destitution is not limited to the improvident or intemperate this season. Want has stared in the face many a worthy family, where industry and frugality have been prominent. In the limited sphere of the writer the calls for aid have been far in excess of the means at his disposal. Instead of $75 this month, $200 could have been judiciously expended in relieving the necessitous wants of the worthy poor. Respectfully submitted,

H. A. HOLT.

A Milwaukee Girl Who Wanted to Buy her Own Tickets and Conldn't.

From the Milwaukee Wisconsin, Feb. 20.

A little incident has come to light which shows that even in this fashionable period there are some conscientious people. When it was announced that the Lucca-Kellogg troupe were to visit this city every one naturally desired to be present at their concerts, at least all those within the pale of fashionable society. In looking over her resources the person referred to found that her means would not justify the purchase of tickets for the Lucca-Kellogg concerts, unless she deferred or evaded the payment of her pew-rent bill. In this dilemma she called into consultation a worthy and venerable friend whose character for integrity is beyond suspicion. Said he at once, "Let the church go, and by your opera ticket." Yet after due reflection she concluded that it was best to forego the musical entertainment and pay the pew-rent bill. She is now content with hearing the wonders of those extraordinary concerts described by her enthusiastic friends, and is serenely happy in the possession of a receipted pew-rent bill.

THE LEHIGH COMPANY.

Pennsylvania's Coal Region—The History of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company.

From Our Special Correspondent.

MAUCH CHUNK, Saturday, Dec. 14, 1872.

Pennsylvania is certainly a State of gigantic enterprises. Her natural riches are so great that she is a sort of land of Canaan to the capitalist, the miner, the laborer, and the mechanic. Her mines of wealth, in the shape of coal and oil, are prodigious. They stimulate production and manufactories of every description, and offer a means of earning a good living to any and every one. Her great treasure in coal, both anthracite and bituminous, would seem to be inexhaustible. What is known as the great Appalachian Coal Field is of vast area. It stretches continuously across the State, from north-east to south-west for a distance of 720 miles, its greatest width being about 180 miles. On a moderate estimate its superficial area amounts to 68,000 square miles, two-thirds of the area of the whole State of New-York. Pennsylvania produces every kind of coal. In the eastern, or Lehigh region, the hardest and purest anthracite is found. Going west an admixture of bitumen is found in the coal, and it is called semi-anthracite, though the proportion of anthracite is largely in excess. Approaching the eastern slope of the Alleghany Mountains the coal is known as semi-bituminous; but, here, the bituminous is largely in excess. On the western slope of the Alleghanies the coal is purely bituminous.

It was the discovery of anthracite coal, a formation of coal hitherto unknown, about eighty years ago, which led to the formation of what is now one of the giant enterprises of Pennsylvania—the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company—an organization, which, beginning with spending £10 to construct a road to the coal lands which they had "taken up" under warrants from the Commonwealth, now has a capital of $20,000,000 and owns some of the most valuable coal fields in the country, a canal, and a railroad. The local historians speak of this section of the State, at the end of the last century, as an unexplored wilderness, where only a few daring squatters were to be found and who subsisted on the deer and bear which abounded in the forests and in the mountains. In the year 1791 one of these hardy squatters, by name Philip Ginter, on his way home from an unsuccessful day's hunting, one evening, picked up some pieces of a black hard substance which lay near the roots of a tree which had been blown down. It proved to be anthracite coal, which might have remained undiscovered in the bowels of its mother earth for years and years had it not been for that mountain pine-tree succumbing to the wintry gust and thus, at the same time, hastening the fortune of Pennsylvania. This man Ginter carried his geological discovery to a Col. Jacob Weiss, who, in turn, took it to Philadelphia to be examined by mineralogists. These learned gentlemen do not appear to have been very competent judges, for they pronounced the mineral to be black stone and denied that it possessed combustible properties. But some shrewd old quaker capitalists of the day ascertained the exact spot where the coal was found, bought the surrounding tract of land on which Col. Weiss seems to have squatted at once, and, forming themselves into a company, "took up" 10,000 acres of land under warrants from the commonwealth in 1793. But they seemed to have determined to proceed very carefully and economically in their pursuit of the mine of wealth they thought might possibly be in store for them; and, as I have said, their first expenditure on their new venture was limited to £10. The great anthracite coal regions is divided into three districts: the First Coal Field, the Second or Middle Coal Field, and the Third or Great Wyoming Coal Field. The property of the infant company comprised the whole of the First Coal Field, the southernmost of the three districts, extending in a south-westerly direction from the Lehigh River at Mauch Chunk, to Tamaqua, on the little Schuylkill River. It consists of two mountain ridges, Nesquehoning and Locust Mountains on the north, and Sharp Mountain on the south, with the Valley of Panther Creek intervening, which lie between the Bloomingdale and Nesquehoning Valleys. These two ridges are about two miles wide at the Little Schuylkill River, but gradually approach one another till they unite and terminate at Mount Pisgah above Mauch Chunk, closing in the Panther Creek Valley at the eastern end. The company, however, were for a long time unaware that there were continuous veins of coal in the field. Sir Charles Lyell, in his *Elements of Geology*, thus speaks of his own survey of these veins of coal. After speaking of some of the geological features of the coal formations at Pottsville, he says: "On following these pudding stones and grits from Pottsville by Tamaqua to the Lehigh Summit Mine, in company with Mr. H. D. Rogers in 1841, he pointed out to me that the coarse-grained strata and their accompanying shales gradually thin out, until seven seams of coal, at first widely separated, are brought nearer and nearer together until they successively unite, so that at last they form one mass between forty and fifty feet thick. * * * The accumulation of vegetable matter now constituting this vast bed of anthracite may, perhaps, before it was condensed by pressure and the discharge of its hydrogen, oxygen and other valuable ingredients, have been between 200 and 300 feet thick. The origin of such a vast thickness of vegetable remains, so unmixed with earthy ingredients, can, I think, be accounted for in no other way than by the growth, during thousands of years, of trees and ferns in the manner of peat—a theory which the presence of the *stigmaria in situ* under each of the seven layers of anthracite fully bears out." I find that the stigmaria is the root of the sigillaria, a tree without branches, which often grew to the height of sixty or seventy feet. Still it must have taken an incomprehensible number of such trees to have piled up into this mass of coal, and they must have taken untold ages to do it. This makes the world out tolerably ancient, at all events that part of in the neighborhood of Mauch Chunk. As Mauch Chunk is enthusiastic about most things, it is probably proud of this fact, too.

Such was the valuable and magnificent property of which the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company found themselves in possession; though it was a veritable white elephant to them for a long series of years. When they mined any coal they could not get it to market, and the stockholders at last got tired of putting their hands in their pockets to hand out contributions which they felt they might as well throw into the river at once. The mines were abandoned for some years, then they were leased at a nominal rental in 1807 to parties who were equally unsuccessful in working them, and who threw up the lease. In 1813 they were leased for cutting timber, the only consideration being that the lessees should ship 10,000 bushels of coal annually to Philadelphia for their own benefit; the Company getting their *quid pro quo* in the introduction of their coal to market. Two loads of coal did actually reach Philadelphia, and though it sold for $21 a ton, it did not pay expenses, and the lease was again thrown up. In the early part of 1818, the entire property was leased for twenty years to a firm who covenanted to deliver 40,000 bushels of coal in Philadelphia every year and pay the Company an annual rental of one ear of corn. This new firm obtained an act of the Legislature authorizing them "to improve the navigation of the Lehigh River" with considerable privileges, and two separate stock companies, each with a capital of $50,000, were formed; one, the Lehigh Navigation Company, for improving the navigation of the Lehigh by constructing wing dams and sluice gates, the other, the Lehigh Canal Company, for making a road from the mines to the river, the road to be a gradual descent. After two years of misadventure, many of the sluice-gates were carried away by the ice, and the position seemed to be a forlorn one. In their mutual dilemma, the two companies agreed to amalgamate, and $50,000 additional capital was raised to repair the damages. In 1820 the company succeeded in getting *three hundred and ninety-five tons* of coal into Philadelphia, and found to their horror that they had *overstocked* the market. People did not want anthracite coal. They said it would not burn—even that it put their fires out—and they would have none of it. But a few sensible ones saw its merits, and the next year the company sent 1,073 tons to market, and in 1822, 2,240 tons. The coal was taken down the river in square-ended boxes or arks, sixteen to eighteen feet wide, and twenty-five feet long, which, like rafts, were steered with long oars. In the course of three or four years, the demand for the coal had become so great that it was necessary for the company to increase their facilities of transportation. In 1827, therefore, the celebrated Switch-back Railroad, from the river to the mines, was constructed, and it was determined to construct a canal from Mauch Chunk to Easton, in connection with the proposed Delaware Division of the Pennsylvania Canal, forty-six miles in length. It was opened in 1829, and the company thought they saw their way to the profitable working, on a large scale, of their 6,500 acres of coal lands, which are estimated to contain no less than 600,000,000 tons of coal. They went on extending their operations and opening new mines, till the terrible freshet of 1862 swept away all their dams between Mauch Chunk and Whitehaven, causing them a severe loss and stoppage of business. They deemed it more prudent and more economical to build a railroad between these points than to restore the navigation, with the risk of having it again destroyed. In 1867 the road was extended from Mauch Chunk to Easton, although the Lehigh Valley Railroad had been in operation since 1865. Their road, known as the Lehigh and Susquehanna, is now profitably leased to the New-Jersey Central, and forms a section of their main line, and there seems to be plenty of carrying business for both roads and canal.

The company have now eight mines in working, two of which are entered by slopes, five by tunnels, and one by a perpendicular shaft. The coal lands are covered with a network of graded railways, with planes at an incline of forty-five degrees, for lowering and raising the cars. The total production in 1871 of all their mines, including those in the Wyoming district, was 769,793 tons, of which 462,128 tons came from the Summit mines, and it must be remembered that the first four months of the year were wasted by the great miners' strike, the whole produce for those months only amounting to 30,000 tons. The price of coal at the mines is $2 a ton. By the time it reaches Mauch Chunk it has risen to $3 a ton; New-York, $5 a ton, and San Francisco, $30 a ton. The company has adopted a very wise plan as an antidote against strikes in future. They sell to any of their miners a lot of ground, large enough to build a house upon and leave enough for a garden, on very easy terms. The privilege has been very widely taken advantage of, and the company find their reward in the greater interest the miners take in the welfare of their employers. If they are discharged from the company's service, they are left with a house and lot on their hands in a spot where, of all others in the world, it is of no earthly use to them, and they are obliged to sell it at a heavy sacrifice. The miners are all Welshmen, and appear to be a very quiet and peaceable class. Not so the Irish laborers. But the company have now a regular system of police, and if laborers are discharged from a mine for violent conduct or endangering the safety of their fellow-laborers, the fact is immediately telegraphed to all the neighboring mines, and they are refused employment throughout the district. The miner is, so to speak, his own "boss." He works when and how long he pleases. He receives no wages for his labor, but is paid the current price for every car he loads in the mines. He employs and pays his own assistant laborers. Of course, if the company found him idle and unproductive, they would at once stop him from entering the mines, and get some one to take his place.

On being brought from the mines the coal-cars are drawn by mules to the breakers, where the large masses are broken by being allowed to fall between two heavy revolving iron frames, armed with tremendous teeth, which break the coal up. These teeth are of various sizes, so that the coal can be broken to any size most in demand in the market at the moment. It is then passed through revolving screens, with strong wire meshes, placed at a slight inclination. Thus the larger coal passes out at the open end, and the small coal passes through. The latter is again screened through a series of finer meshes, till all the sizes of small coal, egg, stove, chestnut, &c., are separated the one from the other. It is then again loaded in cars and shipped through the Nesquehoning tunnel, a tunnel, on which steam locomotives run, which the company have blasted from Panther Creek Valley to Nesquehoning Valley, where they have what they call their "screen building," about a mile from the mouth of the tunnel. The tunnel itself is about seven furlongs in length, and is by no means a pleasant walk. The water comes down from the crevices in the rock above in small rivulets, and there is a decided amount of unpleasantness in hearing the rumbling of the locomotive behind you, for the tunnel is quite dark and there is only one track. In the "screen building" some of the coal for the more select markets is again screened, and the separation of the slate from the coal, a very necessary process, takes place. This separation of the slate from the coal has always been a thorn in the sides of coal owners, and yet it must be carried out, for slate not only does not radiate heat, but it absorbs it. Till quite lately the separation has always been done by hand by small boys, who, the superintendents assert, throw away as much coal as they do slate in picking over a heap. To remedy this evil the company have erected an extensive building in which the separating is very effectually done by machinery, and, of course, much more rapidly. This machinery has only lately been introduced. It was invented by Mr. Bradford, of Reading, and was first put into practical use at one of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company's bunkers during the memorable suspension of mining in the Winters of 1870-71. It was planned, constructed, and put in operation by Mr. Plumb, of New-York, and was worked with such success that a machine capable of separating four hundred tons a day was soon afterward put up in Mauch Chunk. The one lately erected by the company in the Nesquehoning Valley is on a much more extensive scale, the main building being 150 feet by 80 feet, and 66 feet high. Including the inclined planes up which the cars are run into it, the building contains 600,000 feet of timber.

The process of "separating" by machinery is very ingenious, as well as effective, and I will endeavor to make my description of it as free from technicalities unintelligible to the general reader, as possible. The coal is run up the inclined planes and is dumped from the cars into pockets, the empty cars passing out at the other end of the building and going down another plane. The cars are drawn up and let down the planes by an iron wire rope working round a steam-driven revolving drum. At the bottom of the pockets are adjustable feeders, by means of which a regulated quantity of coal is discharged into the screens in a given time. From the screens the coal passes by shutes into the Bradford separators, of which there are already twelve at work, with a capacity for separating 150 tons each in a day of ten hours. Six more will shortly be placed in position, full provision having been made for them. It appears to me that the leading principle in Mr. Bradford's machine is the taking advantage of the great difference in the specific gravity between coal and slate; that of coal being 140, that of slate 280, nearly double as much. The machine consists of a cast-iron box, six feet by three feet, having a horizontal grate of the same mesh as the size of the coal, placed several inches below the top of the box. This box is suspended from a double crank shaft by rods at each end, and is balanced by spiral springs. Behind the box is a close-fitting iron plate, rising above the box, to prevent the coal from getting into the slate compartment during the process of separation. On the grate is placed a thick layer of river pebbles or slate, which are termed "bottoms," a little larger than the mesh of the grate. These pebbles act as valves to give motion to the water in which the box is submerged. The water-tank is divided at the front of the box vertically with openings for the circulation of the water. The box has a rapid perpendicular movement to the extent of the size of the coal. The mixed coal and slate being fed into the box meets the upward current of water coming through the grate and "bottoms." This current is sufficiently strong to carry the light coal over the front of the box, while the heavier slate settles down among the "bottoms," and passes through the grate to an inclined shute, which delivers it to a chain elevator, which discharges it into pockets, from which it is drawn off into cars and conveyed to the dirt bank. The coal falls into a curved hollow, from which it is removed by an iron rake, worked by parallel cranks and rods, and is discharged into the coal pockets ready for market. This separating contrivance works admirably. I carefully scanned some of the coal and some of the slate which had passed through it, and I could not detect a piece of coal among the slate or a piece of slate among the coal.

Thinking that the readers of THE NEW-YORK TIMES may like to know how this great enterprise is getting along after the many vicissitudes of its early existence, I append the company's balance sheet for 1871. It shows that they are thriving in spite of the strike during the first four months of the year. They have in addition to paying $148,041 43 taxes into the national and State exchequers still a surplus of $272,358 83, and yet, fifty years ago, Pennsylvania legislators thought the promoters of this enterprise to be crazy, and said that they were applying to the State for an act which should give them the power to ruin themselves.

The profits of the year from all sources were:

Net profit on railroads, lease rent of Nesquehoning Valley Railroad.....		$719,223 79
Net profit on canals, lease rent of Delaware Division Canal...		169,190 95
Net profit on coal—		
From Lehigh mines, 518,899 tons.....	$424,921 19	
From Wyoming mines, 250,993 tons.....	68,214 74—	493,135 93
Net profit on real estate sold.....		76,368 40
Net profit from rents.....		56,533 86
Miscellaneous receipts.....		3,717 47
Total.....		$1,500,190 30
Less general expenses.....	$106,539 68	
Taxes chargable to railroad.....	93,138 89	
Taxes chargeable to canals.....	6,699 61	
Taxes chargeable to coal and coal lands.....	57,963 82	
Taxes on interest and capital stock.....	71,697 36	
Taxes on landed property and improvements.....	9,309 23—	149,041 43
Balance of interest account for 1871.....		$67,281 86— 1,228,832 87
Surplus.....		$272,358 83

Of course, a considerable portion of the profits from the canal and the railroad accrues to the company as common carriers. The great bulk of their business in this respect is, of course, in carrying coal. Out of the 776,574 tons of freight carried east over the canal last year, coal footed up 741,433 tons. The following tables show how large this coal-carrying business is, and that the company divide the transportation of their own coal pretty evenly between the canal and the railroad.

Coal tonnage on Lehigh and Susquehanna Railway for the year 1871:

From Wyoming region.....	1,207,561
From Upper Lehigh region.....	111,786
From Hazleton region.....	227,117
From Beaver Meadow region.....	52,945
From Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co.'s Mines, Mauch Chunk.....	287,492
	1,887,804

Coal tonnage on Lehigh Canal for the year 1871:

	Tons.
Wyoming region.....	142,000
Upper Lehigh region.....	18,442
Hazleton region.....	209,286
Beaver Meadow region, via Penn. R. R.....	29,377
Beaver Meadow region, via L. V. R. R.....	71,272
Mahanoy region.....	6,851
Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co.'s Mines.....	263,779
	740,733

The Pennsylvania Railroad Monopoly—Indignation in New-Jersey.

On Saturday evening a large and earnest public meeting took place at Washington Hall, Hackensack, to protest against the Pennsylvania Railroad monopoly. Mr. J. M. Crary presided, and speeches were made by Messrs. B. W. Throckmorton, ex-Gov. Price, Mr. Delos E. Culver, Mr. Charles E. Voorhis, and others. Much indignation against the management of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company was expressed, and the following were among the resolutions adopted. They are identical in spirit with the sentiment of other meetings held in various towns in New-Jersey:

Resolved, That this meeting has learned with deep regret that the monopoly as to railroad travel between New-York and Philadelphia, which the State and the world supposed abrogated, and practically extinct, became lending, by act of the Legislature to authorise lawful competition.

Resolved, That we view with deep anxiety the contests now proceeding in the Legislature, in which the people, who are seeking a competing through route from New-York to Philadelphia, are met, not only by opposition from the Pennsylvania, but by the determined and organized efforts by that company to secure, through an organization miscalled the New-Jersey Railway Company, upon the only route by which, geographically, competition can be adequately effected, and that we sympathise heartily with our fellow-citizens of the central counties in their struggle to defeat the charter which has passed the Senate, and to obtain the passage of that which has passed the Assembly.

Resolved, That we protest against the passage of the Senate bill alluded to for the following reasons:

1. The welfare of the people and the necessities of internal commerce demand a competing road.

2. To possess the Pennsylvania Railroad of the route across the State, passing near Bound-brook to Vanderville, excludes all future competition, and makes their monopoly more complete than that abrogated in 1869.

3. The immense wealth and power of the Pennsylvania Company, and the unscrupulous use thereof which has characterized them in this State, and by common report in Pennsylvania and every other State where they control any public works, justify earnest efforts to resist the least addition to their greatness. Great concentrated power is fatal to public liberty.

4. That we regret that the haste with which the Senate bill chartering the so-called New-Jersey Railway was driven through the Senate should have prevented the Senator from Bergen, Mr. Pratt, (receiving the dangers inevitably resulting from the vote he gave for it, and we express our earnest hope that he will, by supporting the bill for a competing road passed by the Assembly, repair the injury done, and protect the State and the country from the disgrace, the danger to free institutions, and the public immorality proceeding from monopoly.

Funeral of the Late Timothy Whittemore.

The funeral of the late Timothy Whittemore took place yesterday afternoon from his late residence, No. 14 West Washington-place. The funeral services were conducted in the front reception-room, which was crowded with friends and relatives of the deceased assembled to pay the last tribute of respect

THE STORY OF BLACK TOMAHAWK.

Beyond the borders of Minnesota and across the muddy waters of the Missouri, in the land of the Dakotas, not far from Fort Sully, stands a little log-house, used as a chapel, a school-house, and a parsonage by an Episcopal missionary. The Indians in the vicinity belong to tribes denominated hostile by the Government. The missionary who built in part by the hands of the missionary, who is a recent graduate of Berkeley Divinity School, Connecticut. In this solitary spot, amid wild and not always friendly men, endures the rigors of an almost Siberian Winter, and with no other companion in his hut than a Christian Santee Indian, the young missionary has not about the task of acquiring the Sioux (or Dakota) language, and preaches every Sunday to a congregation of between forty and fifty Indians, the Santee (who speaks English) interpreting for him. The founding of this mission was mainly brought about by a single Indian, belonging to the wild Twiton Sioux, and when these, years ago a savage in scalp-lock and blanket, is Black Tomahawk.

It appears that the latter, with some members of his tribe, having heard of the wonderful work being among the Santee Sioux by the Hinmans, paid a visit to the Santee Agency (200 miles below) and there saw with his own eyes one of the most savage of the Sioux tribes wholly brought into the faith of the white man's religion, and living peaceable, prosperous, and civilized lives. It made so great an impression on Black Tomahawk that when he returned to his people he resolved to adopt the ways of his Santee kinsmen, (without professing Christianity, for this was a "medicine" or mystery he did not understand,) and forthwith he commenced building a log-house. When Hinman came down he put on white man's apparel, (he would not remove his scalp-lock—as Indian never does until he ceases to be a heathen,) but his relatives and friends now began to oppose him, and by threats and ridicule made his new life very miserable. He then sent messengers to Mr. Hinman to tell him what to do. It led to another visit, and the conversion of Black Tomahawk, who, after he rejoined his tribe, the wild braves having come from the Plains, with open scorn broke out. The young men threatened to tear down his house. Tomahawk, with one companion, then vowed if time was attempted by word or deed to shoot him. He then threw off his blanket, leggins and moccasins, donned a white man's coat and hat, and went to his house. His courage and firmness awed the young men, and he was molested no further. Black Tomahawk then requested Hinman to come and spend a Sabbath with his people, to which he was invited by some of the leading men of the tribe, in response to this call the missionary went, and preached to a large congregation. Black Tomahawk then arose and said: "Brothers, I have called you together to tell you that I have found the Great Spirit. I have found the right way. I have left the ways of the Indian and have taken the ways of the white man. I have built a house and have begun to work. I have sent my children to school. I have given up my heathen ways and have become a Christian. I have found the Great Spirit. He is my friend. He loves me. He has taken away my sins. He has given me a new heart. He has made me glad. I want you to do as I have done. Throw away your heathen ways. Put away your bad hearts. Come to the Great Spirit. He will be your friend. He will love you. He will take away your sins. He will give you new hearts. He will make you glad. Come to the Great Spirit. Come to the Great Spirit. Come to the Great Spirit."

The old heathen chief continued:

Now, dear friend, what can the Church do for us? Can you send us, or are we ready to receive Christian teachers? How can we become good Christians unless some one will tell us the way?

This is the fourth time those heathens have sent to this mission for a teacher, and this very moment (Jan. 1) some of them are on their way to see if I will not be my fault, for I have gone to show them the right path. He is now anxiously waiting to hear from you."

The Missions Leaflet are very anxious to find a faithful man, a clergyman of the Episcopal Church, to go to this distant post. The money for his support can be provided, it is thought, in a short time. A lady and her daughter have offered to undertake to build a hospital for the White Earth Mission. Boxes of clothing have been forwarded, and the Episcopal Indian Commission have ascertained from the Secretary of the Interior at Washington, that relief is about to be afforded the destitute community at White Earth, whose poverty comes from the total destruction of their crops, last Summer, by grasshoppers.

The second extract from the correspondence of the League, tells the story of Black Tomahawk.

THE STORY OF BLACK TOMAHAWK.

Enmegahbowh ("The man who stands before his people.") is a full-blooded Ojibway Indian, son of a chief who, in 1834, under Dr. Breck, an Episcopal missionary in Minnesota, forsook the wild ways of his fathers and the following year of the war-path against the Sioux—the hereditary enemies of the Chippewas—and gave himself up to be a follower of the son of the Great Spirit, or, as the Ojibways call the Crucified One, "the great and good man called Jesus." He was educated and finally ordained a clergyman of the Episcopal Church, since which time he has been as devoted and as valiant in preaching the Gospel among his heathen brethren as he was brave in war and skillful in the hunt before. Once he risked his life and actually sacrificed the health of his youngest child—who subsequently died from the illness contracted at the time—to warn the garrison at Fort Ripley of a meditated outbreak under Hole-in-the-day, a famous chief of the warlike Ojibways. He left the latter's camp at night, with his wife and children, traveling through forests and forcing rivers until daybreak, when he reached Fort Ripley, and gave the warning that saved the lives of the garrison, and undoubtedly prevented a massacre of the border settlers in Upper Minnesota.

When his people were removed to the White Earth Reservation, in Minnesota, near the Red River of the North, Enmegahbowh followed them, still preaching the gospel, still opposed by all arts of the medicine men, but still successful in "adding daily to the Church," and bringing little children to baptism. And here he is to be found to-day, and there is probably not on record a more convincing example of the success of patient, courageous effort to christianize with Indians than this man's history and present relation to the Ojibways affords. He has gathered into the Church over six of his people, embracing most of the chiefs and braves of the Mississippi bands. Some of the latter were once notable and desperate warriors. He has his mission chapel and regular services, and best of all, his good works have gone out (coupled with the name of Bishop Whipple, the "Indian's Friend,") among all the tribes in Northern Minnesota. As a proof of the sincerity of his followers, it is only necessary to state that nearly one-fourth of his band (or about 110) are communicants of the Church. The following extracts from a recent letter from Enmegahbowh reveal the present state of his people, and the good results that have followed his work in the "leavening" of the heathen tribes far to the northward:

WHITE EARTH RESERVATION, Minnesota, Jan. 31, 1873.

It is the severest Winter we have had in forty years. Many of the poor Indians have died from exposure from the effects of the weather. Scarcely a day but we hear of some one dying. Provisions are very scarce in the country, and I am not able to go out for deer, and there is much suffering for want of food.

I am happy to be able to inform you that our missionary work is in a prosperous condition. Since I have been added to the Church by baptism, both adults and children. The interest shown by my people to religious services has not abated in the least.

I have again to inform you, dear brother, that you in the Twin Mountain district are not alone these days ago. We call him the old missionary Hunter. He is the father of Mrs. Hunter, who visited here last Fall. He walked all the year from Twin Mountain, over 100 miles, and for two days was without any food. He has come again to ask some one to go to his people and tell them about the wonderful, great and good man called Jesus. He is over sixty years old. I wish you could hear his pathetic story about his people, and how anxious they are to have some one go there to teach them the ways of the Great Spirit. He said, "We have thirty Christians in our tribe, adults and children, who have learned to pray to God, to sing while they were here, at White Earth Mission, and every night and morning you can hear their voices in prayer and singing to the Great Spirit in the tents of my people. They are like little birds without their parent, calling their parents to come and feed them. How often have these words come from my people in this land! We listened and have made our humble wigwams around them, because we believe they are all true children of the Great Spirit, and He will not forsake them. They are our comfort, and what, did we teach you them and if we have through this hard Winter it will be because of them."

The old heathen chief continued:

Now, dear friend, what can the Church do for us? Can you send us, or are we ready to receive Christian teachers? How can we become good Christians unless some one will tell us the way?

This is the fourth time those heathens have sent to this mission for a teacher, and this very moment (Jan. 1) some of them are on their way to see if I will not be my fault, for I have gone to show them the right path. He is now anxiously waiting to hear from you."

The Missions Leaflet are very anxious to find a faithful man, a clergyman of the Episcopal Church, to go to this distant post. The money for his support can be provided, it is thought, in a short time. A lady and her daughter have offered to undertake to build a hospital for the White Earth Mission. Boxes of clothing have been forwarded, and the Episcopal Indian Commission have ascertained from the Secretary of the Interior at Washington, that relief is about to be afforded the destitute community at White Earth, whose poverty comes from the total destruction of their crops, last Summer, by grasshoppers.

The second extract from the correspondence of the League, tells the story of Black Tomahawk.

THE STORY OF BLACK TOMAHAWK.

Beyond the borders of Minnesota and across the muddy waters of the Missouri, in the land of the Dakotas, not far from Fort Sully, stands a little log-house, used as a chapel, a school-house, and a parsonage by an Episcopal missionary. The Indians in the vicinity belong to tribes denominated hostile by the Government. The missionary who built in part by the hands of the missionary, who is a recent graduate of Berkeley Divinity School, Connecticut. In this solitary spot, amid wild and not always friendly men, endures the rigors of an almost Siberian Winter, and with no other companion in his hut than a Christian Santee Indian, the young missionary has not about the task of acquiring the Sioux (or Dakota) language, and preaches every Sunday to a congregation of between forty and fifty Indians, the Santee (who speaks English) interpreting for him. The founding of this mission was mainly brought about by a single Indian, belonging to the wild Twiton Sioux, and when these, years ago a savage in scalp-lock and blanket, is Black Tomahawk.

It appears that the latter, with some members of his tribe, having heard of the wonderful work being among the Santee Sioux by the Hinmans, paid a visit to the Santee Agency (200 miles below) and there saw with his own eyes one of the most savage of the Sioux tribes wholly brought into the faith of the white man's religion, and living peaceable, prosperous, and civilized lives. It made so great an impression on Black Tomahawk that when he returned to his people he resolved to adopt the ways of his Santee kinsmen, (without professing Christianity, for this was a "medicine" or mystery he did not understand,) and forthwith he commenced building a log-house. When Hinman came down he put on white man's apparel, (he would not remove his scalp-lock—as Indian never does until he ceases to be a heathen,) but his relatives and friends now began to oppose him, and by threats and ridicule made his new life very miserable. He then sent messengers to Mr. Hinman to tell him what to do. It led to another visit, and the conversion of Black Tomahawk, who, after he rejoined his tribe, the wild braves having come from the Plains, with open scorn broke out. The young men threatened to tear down his house. Tomahawk, with one companion, then vowed if time was attempted by word or deed to shoot him. He then threw off his blanket, leggins and moccasins, donned a white man's coat and hat, and went to his house. His courage and firmness awed the young men, and he was molested no further. Black Tomahawk then requested Hinman to come and spend a Sabbath with his people, to which he was invited by some of the leading men of the tribe, in response to this call the missionary went, and preached to a large congregation. Black Tomahawk then arose and said: "Brothers, I have called you together to tell you that I have found the Great Spirit. I have found the right way. I have left the ways of the Indian and have taken the ways of the white man. I have built a house and have begun to work. I have sent my children to school. I have given up my heathen ways and have become a Christian. I have found the Great Spirit. He is my friend. He loves me. He has taken away my sins. He has given me a new heart. He has made me glad. I want you to do as I have done. Throw away your heathen ways. Put away your bad hearts. Come to the Great Spirit. He will be your friend. He will love you. He will take away your sins. He will give you new hearts. He will make you glad. Come to the Great Spirit. Come to the Great Spirit. Come to the Great Spirit

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, MONDAY, FEB. 24, 1873.

Amusements This Evening.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—ROUGHING IT.—Mr. John Brougham, Mr. Fawcet, Mrs. John Wood.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.—DAVID GARRICK.—Mr. E. Sothern, Miss. Ponisi, Miss Katherine Rogers.

NEW FIFTH-AVENUE THEATRE.—ALIXE.—Mr. C. Fisher, Mr. Geo. Clarke, Miss Clara Morris.

UNION-SQUARE THEATRE.—ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD.—Mr. M. Smith, Mrs. Clara Jennings. Matinée at 1½.—DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.—TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN.—Mr. W. J. Florence, Miss Mary Wells, Miss Pateman.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—HUMPTY DUMPTY.—Mr. Geo. L. Fox. Mr. C. W. Bavel, Miss Fanny Beane.

BOWERY THEATRE.—WILL O' THE WISP.—Mr. Charles Abbott.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.—DRAMATIC PERFORMANCES AND CURIOSITIES.—Morning, afternoon and evening.

NIBLO'S GARDEN.—LEO AND LOTOS.—Mr. Leffingwell, Miss. Dinzl.

ST. JAMES THEATRE.—SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.—Birch, Wambold, Backus and others.

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELSY.—Dan Bryant, Seymour, Reed.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN.—EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS.

TRINITY CHAPEL.—LECTURE by Rev. Dr. Schenck on the "History of the English Bible."

The New-York Times.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES is pre-eminently a family paper, all objectionable advertisements being rigidly excluded; and it has a constantly increasing circulation among the most respectable classes of the community.

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The Semi-Weekly Times, per annum.....4
The Weekly Times, per annum.....3

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New-York City.

To Advertisers.

☞ For the accommodation of up-town residents, advertisements for insertion in the TIMES will be received at No. 54 West 33d-st., junction of Broadway and 6th-av.; No. 308 West 23d-st., opposite Grand Opera-house, at same rates as are charged at office of publication.

Notice.

We cannot notice anonymous communications. In all cases we require the writer's name and address, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot under any circumstances return rejected communications, nor can we undertake to preserve manuscripts.

MR. OPDYKE defends the course which he has taken in reference to the charter, through the medium of a letter which we publish elsewhere. When Mr. OPDYKE appeared as the opponent of the charter he was vehemently applauded; when he suggested amendments to it, he was denounced as a traitor, and accused of committing "harikari," with many other compliments of a like kind—all proceeding from those sensitive critics who strongly object to "personalities," especially when they are the subjects of them. Mr. OPDYKE does not reply to these attacks, but he justifies the amendment which he introduced. Doubtless the whole subject will be well discussed this week. It seems to us that there are only the traditional "three courses" open: (1.) Give the Mayor unlimited power, no matter whether the Mayor be an honest or a dishonest man—for you could not guard against the latter contingency. (2.) Let the Mayor nominate and the Board of Aldermen confirm. (3.) Let the Aldermen nominate and the Mayor confirm. The Democrats and Liberal Republicans ask for the first plan; Reformers generally would be contented with the second; Mr. OPDYKE and many Republicans think that the third would answer the best. We are inclined to think that the second method is the safest to follow—it works well enough in Federal and State appointments. But the point is one on which it is very desirable to have a fair expression of public opinion. We are quite sure that little good is to be gained by calling out "Ring," and accusing the Legislature of being led by the nose by Mr. THOMAS MURPHY.

Judge BOSWORTH is entitled to be heard on questions affecting the management of our police force, and the views which he puts forward, in a letter published by us to-day, will doubtless receive the consideration of our readers. So far as we can learn, the proposal to place the power of making transfers, &c., in the hands of the Superintendent is thought to be a very unwise one by all who have any practical knowledge of the question. Judge BOSWORTH gives some very strong reasons in support of this view. His letter touches upon other points, concerning which we have already expressed our opinion.

Meetings are being held all through New-Jersey to protest against the monopoly of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The resolutions of one of these meetings, at Hackensack, will be found in another column. They describe the present condition of the contest. Meanwhile, a general railroad law is proposed, and there is reason to believe that such a measure, properly guarded, would be an admirable one. The experience of Massachusetts in this direction is valuable, and in favor of such a law.

Details of a curious land speculation are being disclosed in the Chicago papers. An unscrupulous "operator" bought forty acres of land about twenty miles from the Court-house, in Chicago, made a grand map of it, divided by boulevards and avenues, and laid out in lots. By this map he proceeded to advertise and sell the lots at about $200 each. They number about 6,048, and are part of them 15 by 80 feet, and part 6 by 27 feet in area, the streets being just 6 feet wide. The curious feature of the case is that he found a great many purchasers among men whose haste to get rich is only excelled by their haste to get rid of what little riches they have. We know of no reason why the victims should be pitied.

Charter Amendments.

That the Assembly will pass the charter in the form in which it was ordered to a third reading is now placed beyond reasonable doubt. That the bill is much more likely to give us a good Government in its present shape than it was when it came from the Committee on Cities is undeniable; that it is yet susceptible of great improvement is equally beyond dispute. The Assembly made some very important changes for good in the bill; and that it did not perfect it, and send it to the Senate in precisely the form in which it should become law, was chiefly due to the fact that its patience was exhausted by the factious opposition made to the measure by the Democrats. The minority attacked the charter with great vigor, and wasted so much time in trying to make party capital out of the affair, without suggesting anything better, that the Assembly, in self-defense, was finally compelled to close the debate, without an opportunity being presented to make all the amendments which are necessary.

Under the circumstances, the Assembly did as well as could have been expected. The great problem of the appointing power was solved by a compromise, as it was certain from the first it must be. It is by no means certain, however, that the plan of the Mayor nominating, and the Board of Aldermen confirming, would not have worked better—with the condition that the same person should not be nominated twice to the same office. The other changes made in the bill by the Assembly were undoubtedly improvements, and this is especially true of the expunging of the seventieth section. No community would patiently endure the Police surveillance provided for in that section. The provision that the Mayor, Controller, Corporation Counsel, President of the Aldermen, one person to be named by the Aldermen, and two to be chosen by the Chamber of Commerce shall form a Commission to make a new charter for the City, which was offered by Mr. OPDYKE, is a good one, and its adoption is a proof that the Republicans in the Legislature are not only aware of the difficulty of framing a proper charter for this City, but are anxious to give the amplest opportunity for the proper performance of the task. The other amendments made by the Assembly were in the right direction, and will command popular approval.

Much as the Assembly has done, the Senate can find a great deal in the bill which needs to be changed. There is a suspicion, fully justified by the peculiar wording of the charter, that it creates two offices intended for the especial benefit of particular individuals; and such legislation being always vicious, the Senate should be careful to give the Assembly an opportunity to correct the error of sanctioning it. It is singular, if all we hear is true, that the Corporation Counsel and Superintendent of Police are the only officers whose salaries are left unlimited, and the Legislature should not fail to fix these salaries beyond all dispute. It is also strange that the Corporation Counsel and the Superintendent of Police, but especially the latter, are made irresponsible officers, and the Legislature should make sure of taking from these posts the vast powers which have been lodged in them by the individuals who have marked them for their own. We have yet to hear of any good reason for giving the Corporation Counsel the authority vested in him by article sixth, of naming the attorneys of all the departments, and taking this provision in connection with that which gives this officer all legal costs recovered by him, there is an appearance of jobbery about the thing which is very offensive in a Reform charter. It is quite probable that no job was intended, but the very suspicion of such a thing should be avoided.

The charter as a whole, even as it is at present, is far better than any we have recently had, but it is yet so susceptible of amendment that we hope the Senate will not fail to perfect it. Some of its defects we have pointed out, and there are others to which attention is yet to be called. What this City wants is a charter under which it can be wisely and honestly governed. The Legislature has before it an instrument which very nearly meets the requirements of the City, and we hope it will be perfected and made a law without further delay.

Indecent Publications.

It is a question how far obscene publications can be suppressed by law. Probably no measure can be devised which will reach all, or even the greater number of such publications. But the evil is certainly one that can be lessened, if it cannot be entirely abolished, and the attempt to lessen it is well worth a fair trial. It will, moreover, be much more easy to give a law for this purpose a fair trial, especially in this City, now, than it would have been under the Tammany régime. We can rely on a vigorous and sincere public prosecutor and on fair courts. The instruments of the law, at least, are not in the hands of the friends and companions of those who would defeat its purpose. It is fashionable just now to say that we have not made much progress in reform. We have not made as much progress as we might have done, and we hope to make much more; but at least the dissolute classes are not so influential places of authority as they were two short years since. There is now, therefore, much encouragement for making an energetic attempt to restrain the outrageous license of indecent publications.

But those who assume the task must not underrate its magnitude. The traffic in immorality has many channels and a wide extent. It is not easy to shut out its influence from even the most tenderly-guarded household. If the head of a family is able to exclude from his house those papers which present prurient and immoral reading-matter, he has by no means fully protected those in his charge. Far too many of our newspapers take advertisements of the most improper character, not only tending, but directly intended, to spread vicious practices, and serving, if nothing more, to familiarize their readers with phases of life which ought by all means to be hidden. These are a very profitable class of advertisements. It is a common thing for the publishers of THE TIMES to be offered five and six times as much money for their insertion as is charged for legitimate advertisements. We need not say that all such offers are rejected, and that we find no difficulty in keeping our paper entirely free from objectionable matter. Other journals could do the same, if they would. It is only a question of decency and honorable dealing with those who trust the conductors of a paper. But on this question far too many journals are on the wrong side; and for them a stringent law is needed. If they will not restrain themselves from trading in the demoralization of the community, the community has a right, through its representatives, to restrain them and protect itself.

The first step in this direction is a stringent law. Ordinarily we are not in favor of laws which are in any considerable danger of gradually becoming a dead-letter, as in the course of time we fear the best of laws on this subject would. We are fully aware that the motives which produce obscene publications are wide-spread and permanent, and that in every city a great number of men, for their own profit, are appealing to the greed of others to engage in the dirty business. We have no hope of suppressing vice wholly by statute, or eradicating by means of the courts evils that spring from the perversion of powerful passions. But we believe that a wholesome check might be given to some of the worst forms of indecency to which the community is exposed by the vigorous enforcement of a stringent law. We have men in authority now who would undertake the enforcement of such a law, and we are strongly in favor of enacting one. It is one of the very few cases in which a law, even if it do little good, can do no harm, and it may do much good. We have a right to urge this matter on the Legislature, because we know we express the earnest convictions of the great body of decent people in the State, and especially of that portion who, though without votes, are yet the most deeply interested in the restraint of license.

Earnacles on Life Insurance.

We showed the other day that in the five years from 1867 to 1871 the agents of the life insurance companies doing business in New-York received for commissions alone over $40,000,000, while the widows and orphans of those who died assured during that time got but $75,000,000. It must have struck everybody, not trained in life assurance circles, that the proportion of more than a half is rather a large one for the agent. When, however, we come to add to this great total paid to agents for commissions, the other sums which they charge the companies in the way of expenses, extra allowances, salaries, fees, rent of offices, stationery and what not—which amount is, of course, carefully concealed in the annual financial exhibit—we must raise the "handsome" figure of forty millions, how much higher we cannot say, but certainly appreciably higher. If we added to this the fees of the medical examiners, and the salaries and commissions of the officers, we should reach a total which would probably stand a much nearer comparison with the seventy-five millions paid the widows and orphans, for whose welfare the self-sacrificing agents are so solicitous.

The life assurance business has, in fact, during the last twelve or fifteen years, become an actual and profitable business, like stock speculation or wheat cornering, for those who have been lucky enough to learn it. First, we have the officers, usually, and in the most eminently successful instances always, graduates from the agency novitiate; then the medical examiners; then the attorneys; then the agents. These people "run" a "mutual" company, and all, it may be safely taken for granted, take good care to secure themselves from starvation. Back of these are the directors—respectable and trustworthy men, representatives of the wealth and honor of the City—but who, not being versed in the intricate (or purposely made intricate) subject of life assurance, can only watch over the general character of the investments of their company, and see to it that what seems in their view to be a fair economy shall prevail in its management. As a matter of fact, the officers have nearly fully their own way, and it is often a way that leads to fortune—for themselves.

But another great evil attending life assurance is involved in what are known as "lapsed" policies. This is intimately mixed up with the agency evil, for a lapsed policy means one which has been confiscated by the company with all that has been paid on it in the way of premium; and the unhappy result for the policy-holder is very frequently brought about by the fact that his eyes have been opened to the lying representations of the agent who wrung it from him, and he prefers to lose what he has expended to being the victim of possible further deceit. Now, in 1864, of terminated policies, twelve per cent. were surrendered, (that is, given up to the companies for a small proportion of the money paid on them,) *seventy-three per cent.* lapsed, (that is, were wholly confiscated,) and the remainder, a bare fifteen per cent., were terminated by the death of their holders. In 1871, twenty-one and a third per cent. were surrendered, seventy-one and a third per cent. lapsed, leaving but about *seven* per cent. for those which ceased through death and expiry. To give the actual number of policies: In 1871, there were terminated in companies of New-York 124,275 policies. Of these, 115,212 lapsed and were surrendered, (88,706 being by lapse alone,) and but 9,063 were by death or "expiry." Now, these lapsed and surrendered policies, involving confiscation, in whole or in part, of the premiums paid upon them, must have yielded an income to the companies reaching to millions of dollars. What becomes of this money? Does it go to swell the "reserve" or to meet the enormous expenses of officers and agents, granite buildings, and canvas-back and Roederer suppers? Wherever it goes, there is an evil in it which demands legislative inquiry and action.

The Thirst for Gold.

Whatever the measure of blame an impartial judgment may in good time attach to officials who have been associated with recent speculative scandals, and whatever the measure of absolution which may, on the other hand, prove to be due to those persons, a lesson has been taught anew that can hardly be too strongly dwelt upon. It is clear that the temptation to get money by equivocal means has been, since the war, one of feverish and abnormal power. The relative importance of money has been unduly exaggerated. All people cannot be rich, but the inflation of the currency, and the consequent rise in the price of the necessaries as well as the luxuries of life, has made it almost indispensable to be rich, even to pay one's way, in the great majority of cases where people must live, or feel they must live, like ladies and gentlemen. All people living on moderate, fixed incomes have suffered terribly in the pinch. The mass of those whose calling is disconnected with commerce have grown poorer; and many of them to this day have a load of debt pressing them down, and wearing their hearts out with its hopeless, inextricable burden.

Apart from this question of the relative strain of necessity and temptation, the sudden accumulation of wealth by so many who have nothing else to boast of, has produced many unsatisfactory features in daily life. The plain truth is, that money is thought too much of; character, intellect, culture, are not sufficiently valued. So many have clambered into conspicuousness who possess neither, and know the worth of neither, of these qualities, that there has grown up a habit of depreciating them which would be ludicrous if it did not always threaten to be disastrous. The mere successful money-grubber—thinks what he has done the finest possible thing to do, and stamps this belief on all within the sphere of his influence. He ought to respect, and ad, and seek social and intellectual help from his cultivated neighbor who has no dollars; but Crœsus simply avoids and despises him. Crœsus is doubtless by this the greatest loser in the long run, but still, in the meantime, society is debased and corrupted. This is bad anywhere, but in a democratic society it is worse than anywhere else. Just as the fact that a law which cannot be enforced brings all law into discredit, so the unwritten or implicit social laws that proclaim equality or assign pre-eminence to merit alone, are brought to laughter by the vulgar ostentation of the purse-proud, and to contempt by the apotheosis of shoddy. While there is no shame in the accident of starting in life without education, there is great shame in not seeking and doing honor to cultivation and refinement—those more exalted elements of humanity that prosperous gold-getting does not confer.

The symptom of the disease is now found in the growing sordidness of the new rich, and in the ceaseless fret and bitter resentment of the educated poor. The latter see, by combinations they are powerless to resist, a great part of the produce of the whole community gradually accumulating in the coffers of those who do absolutely nothing, or next to nothing, for the community in return. They point to some men of reputed wealth, and ask what does he do for society? And it is observable that, in general, the significance of the question is in the direct ratio of the wealth of the individual to whom it refers. Were there such a thing as a *quid pro quo*, or a compensating relation of affairs, the inquiry would be less pressing. The intelligent young go about, too, as well as their more deeply-thinking seniors, and say: "After all, it is only to money that honor is paid, only from money that strength flows, only with money can pleasure, rest, luxury, be bought; therefore let us get money at all hazards and at all costs." This is an old story, perhaps, but it constantly forces itself afresh upon the attention. The evils of gold-worship are upon us, more pernicious and destructive than ever. From this unhappy and much-nourished passion the bulk of our political and social troubles now spring.

Mrs. Green.

Mrs. LAURA FAIR gained the warm admiration of certain strong-minded women by demonstrating her ability to rival even the boldest type of male Californian in deadly practice with the pistol. To those women who visited Mrs. FAIR in her cell, and hailed her as a pioneer in the work of emancipating her sex, we commend the case of Mrs. AMELIA GREEN, of London, whose treatment of the male person for whom she condescended to act as housekeeper shows the noble and imperious spirit of the woman who knows her superiority to man, and knowing, dares maintain it.

The courage and prowess of Mrs. GREEN were brought to the knowledge of the public by a complaint made against her in a police court by her terrified employer. His testimony unfolded a tale of tyranny which reflects the highest credit upon the indomitable fierceness of his housekeeper. It was her practice, so he alleged, to get tipsy twice every day—a feat of which few male drunkards are capable. Moreover, whenever she was intoxicated, she tore up the complainant's clothes. Whether on these occasions she contented herself with destroying a single garment, or insisted upon demolishing an entire suit, does not appear. In either case, her conduct must have resulted in swelling the tailor's bills of her employer to an enormous annual sum. She did not, however, restrict her violence merely to the complainant's clothing. She repeatedly pursued him with a carving-knife and threatened to "do for him" with a revolver. It would occur to most men afflicted with a knowledge of such peculiar habits, to peremptorily dismiss her without warning and without a character. Her unhappy victim attempted so to do, but she steadfastly refused to leave him. Remonstrance and command were alike lost upon her, and she maintained her position with that absolute insensibility to the hints and requests of the nominal master of the house, which has hitherto characterized only the most determined and virulent female relation.

The employer was thus compelled to choose either between an ignominious flight or a silent endurance of his wrongs. He seems to have adhered to the latter course, until his housekeeping tyrant conceived the original idea of violently beating him about the head with a beef-steak. He had endured the ruin of his wardrobe, and he lived in constant fear of the pursuing carving-knife and the threatening revolver, but he felt that no man with any self-respect would meekly permit himself to be beaten with a beefsteak brandished by a woman, and he thereupon invoked the protection of the law. Even before the magistrate, this high-spirited woman maintained her lofty bearing, and disdained to avail herself of the plea suggested by the Court, that, in beating her victim with a steak, she was merely endeavoring to render the latter tender and palatable. So profound was the impression which she produced upon the magistrate, that he advised the complainant not to take out a summons against his oppressor for assault; and that unfortunate man, finding himself without support or sympathy, suffered himself to be led away in triumph, doubtless to undergo, with increased cruelty, the degrading torture of the steak, and to have his last vestige of clothing torn and trampled under the tyrant's foot.

A woman who has in so signal a manner proved the superiority of matter over mind deserves even greater gratitude than was lavished by strong-minded women upon Mrs. FAIR. The latter merely killed a man, but Mrs. GREEN has terrified and beaten her victim through a long series of months, until she has made him her submissive slave. Hereafter, when men prate of the weakness of women, it will only be necessary, in order to confute the miserable slander, to point to the stern figure of Mrs. GREEN, rending the garments of her trembling employer, beating him with a raw beef-steak, and still finding, amid these active duties, sufficient leisure to drink herself into complete drunkenness every morning and every afternoon.

Light on the Progress of the Absent Arctic Explorers.

From an unexpected but unimpeachable source, we have highly interesting intelligence bearing upon the late experience of the many Polar expeditions now in the Arctic regions. This intelligence is derived from the recent report of the Scottish Meteorological Society, giving the observations of their observers in Iceland and Faroe for the year past, in which some remarkable data appear. Iceland lies on the threshold of the frozen zone, and its thermal vicissitudes in any given year afford a very good clue to the peculiar climatic conditions contemporaneously occurring far within the Arctic circle.

From the report of the Scottish Society, the mean temperature at Stykkisholm, in the north-west of Iceland, for January of last year, was nearly 34° Fahrenheit, more than 6° above the average, and the highest mean temperature recorded in January since 1846, except that of 1862. In July and August last the mean range of the mercury was about 52° or 53°, or nearly 4° above the average of those months in Iceland, and the highest readings of the thermometer since July, 1847, and August, 1846. The secretary of the society reports, from the letters of his Icelandic colaborers, that "the past Summer there has been one of the finest experienced in many years." It is further stated that even at Melstadt, (which is on the north coast of Iceland,) the Summer was exceptionally fine, and this was also true in Faroe during June and July. But, what is still more significant for our present purpose, the temperature of the seas which bathe these Arctic islands, equally with the temperature of the air, was very much higher than in former years, and this thermometric anomaly extended to the Orkney Islands and Scotland.

These facts are highly suggestive of the ice-conditions in the circumpolar basin, with which the American, Austrian, and other Arctic explorers were probably contending till the long Winter of the high north set in. Iceland, being situated in the throat of the Gulf Stream extension in Summer, and on its western margin in Winter, is the weather-gauge or thermometer of the highest latitudes, in whose basins are received the warmer tropical currents of the Atlantic Ocean. As these warm ocean streams provide it with heat, its lakes, though small and shallow, very seldom freeze to a greater thickness than five or six inches, and a period of twenty years has been known to elapse in which the lowest temperature noted was twenty-nine degrees, (above zero)—a climatic softness which many parts of this country would envy. So marked and potential are the thermal effects of the ingressive currents of the sea north-east of Iceland, that in July, 1827, PARRY, when north-east of Spitzbergen, experienced heat which melted the pitch in the seams of his boat, and which, at the same time, was at work dissolving and dislodging those vast ice-drifts upon which he afterward attempted the task of journeying to the Pole. The facts now brought to our knowledge by the Scottish Meteorological Society, attesting anomalous warmth last Summer, both in the air-currents and the oceanic streams which discharge themselves into the Polar basin, if alone, would reflect much encouraging light upon the fate and fortunes of the gallant men and explorers who have gone thither. The additional information, furnished, through Dr. PETERMANN, by Capt. NILS JOHNSEN, of the Iceless sea found by himself, in August last, east of Spitzbergen, as well as the tidings from Lieut. PAYER, corroborate the Icelandic observations and the inferences that may be drawn from them.

The combined data show pretty conclusively that last Summer proved to be favorable for Arctic exploration. This fact would explain the silence of all the explorers, which has not been broken since the 16th of that month. Upon the supposition that the ice-drifts were made unusually large by the great excess of heat, and drifted southward in July, leaving an open sea behind them, Capt. HALL'S, and the various other expeditions, would doubtless have improved the opportunity to push boldly forward to the highest attainable latitude. As all the outstanding exploring parties were furnished with boats suited to just such a happy emergency, it is highly probably that one or more of them has progressed toward the Pole beyond the utmost limit ever before reached.

Marine Disasters.

Mr. PLIMSOLL, a member of the English House of Commons, has recently published a book showing the reckless manner in which the lives of seamen and passengers are risked by greedy ship-owners, who send vessels to sea in a condition that invites, and sometimes renders inevitable, disaster. The chief causes of shipwrecks that might have been prevented by reasonable care are, he alleges, the unseaworthiness, overloading, and undermanning of ships. Especially is this true of the colliery trade. In the six years ending in 1868, more than one-half of the disasters occurring in the British carrying trade occurred to vessels of the collier class. These vessels are frequently old and rotten, and are overloaded to a dangerous extent. Mr. PLIMSOLL, among a long list of disasters thus provoked, mentions the case of a vessel which sailed from a port in the North of England, loaded down to within twenty inches of the water. So evident was the hazard of putting to sea in such a craft, that the crew refused to sail in her, and were kept on board only by force, and with the assistance of the police. She sailed, and with her unfortunate crew, has never since been heard of.

Not only are English ships frequently overloaded, but they are often built so flimsily as to render them entirely unseaworthy. Iron bolts, with copper heads, are substituted for the more costly copper bolts, with the full knowledge that the iron is liable to rust until it becomes so brittle as to be useless. Ships are also built enormously long in proportion to their breadth, and are thus rendered so weak that the least touch upon a rock breaks them in two. The scarcity of seamen leads captains to put to sea with crews too small to properly handle their ships, and as a consequence, when a sudden squall comes up, sail cannot be shortened with sufficient rapidity, or when the ship springs a leak there is not sufficient force to keep the pumps manned. From these causes scores of vessels are annually wrecked, and hundreds of lives lost. Even the insurance companies, which might be expected to exercise some restraint upon reckless owners, by refusing to insure unseaworthy vessels, or to pay for losses that care would have prevented, fail to check the evil; since the tremendous competition between rival underwriters has resulted in putting a stop to close inquiry into the character of a vessel, and since no company can afford to gain the reputation of being backward in settling claims.

This is by no means a flattering picture of the British mercantile marine, but it is doubtful if a better state of things prevails elsewhere. Sailors are as scarce here as in England, and few American ships leave this port properly manned. The series of disasters that have happened this Winter to our coasting steamers, irresistibly suggests that the sending of unseaworthy vessels upon dangerous voyages is not wholly unknown here; while the traveling American public, in patronizing the transatlantic steamers, incur the dangers which attach to vessels of enormous length and disproportionate beam. It is obvious that both here and in England there is need of great improvement, and room for intelligent legislation. Mr. PLIMSOLL intends to bring the subject before Parliament, and it would be well were his example to be followed in our own national legislature.

MINOR TOPICS.

A few sentences like that which Recorder HACKETT inflicted on HENRY ALEXANDER, at the Court of General Sessions, last week, would be worth a large amount of money annually to the wholesale dry-goods houses of this City. ALEXANDER is one of a class of men who, while too cowardly to steal themselves, do their utmost to encourage clerks with small salaries to rob their employers. A youth named DYER, formerly in the service of H. B. CLAFLIN & Co., was his victim. To him he sold the proceeds of his thefts at prices of course, less than a third of the original cost. Having been detected at last, DYER promptly confessed his crime, and pointed out the residence of ALEXANDER. It is well known by the detectives at Police Head-quarters that there are hundreds of men of the Alexander tribe in New-York, whose places of concealment are constantly filled with stolen goods. Last week one of the number was entered by Capt. WILLIAMS, of the Twenty-first Precinct, and some $3,000 worth of property discovered, which could not be accounted for in a satisfactory manner. It is to be hoped that the proprietor, who was arrested immediately after the discovery, will be speedily brought to trial, and, if found guilty, sent to keep ALEXANDER company. Armed with search warrants, the police might, some day, go the entire round of these dens. By proper advertising we have no doubt owners could be found for enough articles in every case to warrant the conviction of the persons found in possession.

The timid residents of Brooklyn have lately been kept in a constant state of alarm by the operations of a gang of incendiaries, the members of which seem to enjoy more than an ordinary degree of success in eluding the police. From time to time, during the past month or two, houses have been fired, in populous as well as remote thoroughfares. A frame tenement in Baltic-street, (South,) has twice within a comparatively short period been set on fire. Two or three nights ago, the second attempt was made to destroy it and murder the family of its occupants. Now, the police force, either, is grossly overmatched, or have not been wanting very hard to break up this gang of miscreants.

It should, surely, be consoling to the "faithful" to learn, on the authority of so well-informed a chronicler, at least where potentates are concerned, as the correspondent of the London *Morning Post*,

> "that the gusto with which the Pope indulges in a joke is as great as ever, and the joviality of His Holiness rises superior to the distressing circumstances which have already deprived him of his temporal throne, and now threaten his last stronghold in the religious corporations. The other day, while arresting audience to the curates of Rome, Pope IX. concluded his speech to them with the following words: 'Our blessed God will open His ears to our prayers. I saw here just now a good father who was hard of hearing. He told me that in his country many prayers were put up for the Pope, the Church, and the tranquillity of the vast kingdom to which he belongs. I remarked to him, 'Let us hope that God is not as deaf as you are. Let us confide, therefore, in the Divine mercy.'"

The various School Boards, which a recent Act of the British Legislature brought into being, are distinguishing themselves by a vigor of language and acrimonious antagonism, compared with which even the polemics of the parochial Boards of Guardians, heretofore regarded as *facile princeps* in offensive verbal encounters, pale into absolute significance. The dull routine of the proceedings at one of these boards was recently relieved by the following cut-and-thrust passages:

> Mr. HOLLAND—To maintain your miserable system, you have to go begging to get money on your hands and knees! Your conduct has been disgraceful. You double-dealing man—it is thoroughly dishonorable.
>
> Rev. W. F. NORRIS—Mr. Chairman, I rise to order.
>
> Mr. HOLLAND—Abominable, disgraceful! No one but a parson would be guilty of such a thing.
>
> Mr. NORRIS—Mr. Chairman, I must rise to order.
>
> The CHAIRMAN—Mr. HOLLAND, I must ask you to desist.
>
> Mr. NORRIS—Mr. HOLLAND is making these remarks, which I most deeply regret, in the presence of the Treasurer of the public elementary schools in Soho-square, than whom a more upright and honest public man I never knew.
>
> Mr. HOLLAND—You miserable, double-dealing man, what do you say behind his back?
>
> The CHAIRMAN—Really, Mr. HOLLAND, I must beg of you to desist.

The English papers have so often done us the favor to call the choicest flowers of invective oratory from our legislatures, that we are bound in all fairness, to publish the spirited defense of their educational senators.

Lawyers will be interested to hear that Mr. EDWIN JAMES, the famous English advocate, has, on appeal, been refused readmission to the bar. If the same standard that put Mr. JAMES over the bar, and keeps him there, were applied to the profession in this City, we would have fewer lawyers for the time being.

The present Legislature of Indiana appears determined to make a record that will not soon be forgotten. Having squarely met the divorce scandal by amending the law in certain important points, woman's right to hold office was declared, and more recently a bill was introduced which provides that "any State, county, or township officer who shall use intoxicating liquor as a beverage shall forfeit his office." A correspondent, in referring to it, says: "There is no doubt this bill would have passed without alteration but for a suddenly-developed opposition to its sweeping character." As it was, after having excited a good deal of discussion, it was ultimately recommitted, with instructions to substitute for "use intoxicating liquor," &c., "who shall get intoxicated."

AMUSEMENTS.

Musical.

THE SEASON OF OPERA.

The promised series of operatic performances at the Academy of Music, to extend over four weeks, will be commenced on Friday evening next. "La Favorita" will be sung on the opening night of the season. Saturday afternoon, a "Lucca matinée representation," the subject of which is not yet announced, will occur, and on Monday night "Faust" is to be done.

NEW-YORK CONSERVATORY CONCERT.

The pupils of the New-York Conservatory of Music gave a concert at Steinway Hall on Saturday evening. The place was filled to overflowing, and a liberal programme was interpreted, from first to last, with a skill and taste which spoke well for the training received at the useful establishment whence the performers came. The elements of the entertainment were recitations by a good amateur orchestra; songs by Misses Lazar and Randall, and Messrs. Rockwood and Orsen; and piano and organ pieces by Misses Rogers, Barrows, Bridges, Childs, Fraser, Vuillaux, Happs, Tryon, and Roberts, and Mr. Dunnell.

CONCERT ON WEDNESDAY.

A concert will be given at Steinway Hall, on Wednesday evening next, in aid of St. Mark's Church. The Hyers Sisters and the Lucca Brothers are to be the principal performers.

Dramatic.

"CHARITY AMATEUR DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION."

A matinée entertainment in aid of the St. Barnabas Home, will be given at the Union Square Theatre, by the Charity Amateur Dramatic Association, under the management of Mrs. Sheridan Shook, to-day. The institution the performance will benefit is one worthy of aid, and the representation to be given in its behalf promises to be decidedly attractive. "Married Life" and the "Rough Diamond" are to be acted, and a musical interlude is announced besides.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.

The drama of "Across the Continent" will be done, at Wood's Museum, this evening. A mention of the reproduction of this highly sensational drama is the only one to be made in connection with the City theatres, last week's performances being repeated at all the other houses.

Personal.

Miss Neilson returned to this City yesterday, from Providence, where several highly successful representations rounded off the first half of a tour rich in triumphs. Miss Neilson's Boston engagement was as brilliant as that fulfilled in Philadelphia; and a tribute of admiration from Mr. Lowell, who remarked that he had never seen "intellect and poetical feeling so exquisitely combined as in the lady's personations of *Juliet* and *Rosalind*," we doubt made it especially memorable. Miss Neilson will next appear in St. Louis, at the close of the present week. In April she is to act in "Kenilworth," at Booth's Theatre.

Miscellaneous.

MR. BARNUM'S NEW ENTERPRISE.

Mr. P. T. Barnum announces that his "Traveling Museum, Menagerie and Hippodrome" will be installed at the American Institute Building, at the corner of Third-avenue and Sixty-third-street, on Monday, March 31. It will remain there for two weeks.

THE COOPER INSTITUTE MASS-MEETING.

Tuesday—The Germans to Attend.

A meeting of Germans of Yorkville and Harlem was held at No. 11 Third-avenue yesterday, to make arrangements for a general participation of the Germans of that districts in the mass-meeting of the Committee of Seventy at the Cooper Institute to-morrow evening. A committee was formed composed of Messrs. Sobuls, Bernemann, Diemberg, Gollet, Dr. Goldschmidt, Von Kameke, Lieutenant, and others, to take further action in the matter of aiding in the demonstration.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DISCUSSION OF THE CHARTER.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

It is quite true, as intimated editorially in your journal, that the argument in favor of the section of the New-York charter, as originally regulating the appointment and removal of the heads of departments, has not adequately appeared in the Press reports of the proceedings at Albany. I therefore beg leave briefly to summarize the reasons that led to its adoption.

1. It will be readily admitted that the provisions of the charter in reference to the various executive departments render each of these departments absolutely independent of all control either from the Mayor or the Common Council, and that when the annual gross sum is appropriated to each department, the heads thereof possess, each in his own sphere, despotic power. This power continues, too, during a fixed term of office, varying from two to six years. Now, no appointing power is infallible, and weak, incompetent, or inefficient men may be selected for some of these places, and the consequence would inevitably be a continuance of our acknowledged failure in municipal administration.

It is apparent, therefore, that it is of little moment who is to select these officers, compared with the urgent need of securing some control over them after their appointment. Ask a general whether he would forego his power of relieving his officers for that of appointing all of them. But a power of removal "for cause" only, after charges made and an opportunity for defense, would afford no practical power of control, since it is not an effective power of removal. It would involve as long a labor to bring about an actual removal in this way as it did to convict Barnard or to acquit Curtis.

2. It will also be admitted, I believe, that a power in the hands of the chief executive to remove the heads of departments at pleasure, if not abused—i. e., "subject to the approval of the Governor"—would necessarily give to the Mayor the most effective means of keeping all the executive departments in harmony with himself, and of securing at all times an efficient as well as honest administration of the whole municipal government. Who will say that, with this power in his hands, the Mayor cannot justly be held responsible by the people for the good order of the City, and for an economical and energetic execution of the laws?

3. Let us assume, then, that such a power of removal is the matter most important to secure, and let us see where the appointing power should be placed.

Few favor placing this power absolutely in the Mayor. The City has had in the past, and may again have, bad men in the Mayor's chair.

The recognized method at the present day is that the Mayor shall appoint and the Aldermen confirm. As applied to the present juncture, there were insuperable difficulties in the way of the adoption of this method. The unfortunate quarrel of the Mayor with the party in power had so embittered many Republicans all over the State, and again, had produced so profound a conviction among others, that such a provision would bring about only a dead-lock between the Mayor and the Aldermen, as to render it certain that no charter containing this provision could be passed at this session of the Legislature.

The only other method was that by which the Aldermen, after submission to the Mayor for approval, should appoint. This method, though open to serious objections, had a precedent in the history of our City, and was capable of being guarded at several points. It is immeasurably superior to the mode provided in the charter as first reported, for it neither degrades the Mayor, nor allows the unrestricted abuse of the caucus system.

4. The question was then, shall the present officials in the police and other departments remain in office, or is it wiser to gain for the City the important power in reference to removals, and, at the same time, to rid the City of the last legacy of the Tweed dynasty. I do not see how any one could hesitate, who desired supremely from this Legislature a good government for the City of New-York.

5. As to the result, it may be that mainly Republicans will be put into office, but they must be good men. None other can run the gauntlet, first of the Mayor's objections, after one week's investigation, and next of the criticisms of the Press during the five days elapsing before the Aldermen can act on a nomination which the Mayor has not approved. Bad men will hardly risk the trial, and if they dare, so much the worse for them.

If good men then are selected, who will complain that they are Republicans save those who have striven to secure this patronage for members of a different political party, or those who have hoped to keep the present officials in power? For my own part I have never felt that the Republicans, as a party, should desire the responsibility that a control of the City patronage will entail.

But whoever become the heads of the departments will find the Mayor, in fact as in name, the chief executive. The full publicity secured by the charter to the whole working of the City Government, and the special power of scrutiny given to the Mayor, in connection with his power of removal at pleasure, invest him with supreme power for good, while even a bad man as Mayor would be powerless for evil.

Now for one word personally. I am not indifferent to the good opinion of my fellow-citizens, but I am callous to such attacks as my course in regard to this charter has brought upon me in some quarters. I have acted upon my best judgment, without consideration of any personal consequences, and I sincerely believe that I have aided in securing for the City of New-York a great good, and that the result will demonstrate the correctness of my opinion. With this conviction I am content to wait for the event to justify my course. As I have never had, and have not now, any political aspirations, I am careless whether or not my course is such as a shrewd politician would advise.

Let me say, finally, that the new charter, even as amended, contains, in my judgment, many serious defects, but it is the best attainable under the circumstances. It, however, provides for the appointment of a commission made up of men practiced in municipal affairs to frame a charter in harmony with the new constitution when completed, and accessible to the enlightened opinion of our citizens, if any amount of study can bring those opinions to accord.

WM. S. OPDYKE.

NEW-YORK, Saturday, Feb. 22, 1873.

From Judge Bosworth.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

As you invite discussion of the charter, I venture to make a few suggestions. In the debate in the Assembly, on Friday, Mr. Husted is reported to have said: "There were sixteen sections in the bill drawn by Judge Bosworth, the ablest Democrat in the State; and the very section concerning the Police Department was drawn by the most prominent Democrat in the State—a man who had given the party consolation in its hours of defeat, and congratulations in its hours of success."

The gentleman from Westchester was quite imaginative in all that he said of the Judge. There are many older and more prominent Democrats in the State, even though his Democracy be dated from his birth. He did not draw either of the sections of the bill, and was not consulted as to its structure or provisions. The same is true of the charter of 1870, as originally enacted.

After the charter was introduced at the present session, he suggested, to a gentleman supposed to have supervision of its preparation, two changes as important, whatever might be its other provisions; and, on Monday last, several others, to correct, in most cases, obvious errors. This is the extent of his paternity of any section in the bill. I desire to noted, briefly, three provisions of the proposed charter.

First.—By section 68, "all matters connected with the detail, transfer, and designation of police officers and policemen to duty, and all orders affecting said police officers and policemen in the discharge of their duty, shall solely emanate from the Superintendent of Police." I suppose this to be the section which Mr. Husted said "was drawn by the most prominent Democrat in the State," and that the man to whom he assigned this distinction is A. Oakey Hall. There was a similar provision in that one of the several charters, drawn in 1870, known as "Mayor Hall's charter." The object then sought to be accomplished was to give Mayor Hall control of the Police, through the power over the Superintendent which other provisions in that charter gave to him. The objections to this provision are numerous, and I think all who have held the office of Superintendent or Police Commissioner will concur in them.

The Superintendent has enough to do to occupy his whole time, without being burdened with this duty. The most unpleasant of all the annoyances to which a police commissioner is subjected are the numerous, urgent and persistent appeals from politicians in behalf of the transfer and detailment of policemen. Even if these appeals are resisted, as they generally should be, time must be consumed in hearing them, or the applicants must be rudely dismissed, which would soon make the Superintendent the subject of denunciation, and very unpopular. Transfers of captains, sergeants, and patrolmen must often be made to improve the efficiency of the force. When this is done in good faith, solely with this view, those transferred, in the language of police literature, think and say that the Commissioners "are down on them." Captains have a preference in respect to the precincts, and when sent where they do not wish to go, they feel equally unpleasant toward the Commissioners. Under the present system, the dissatisfaction thus caused does not affect cordial feelings toward the Superintendent. With the section as a law, as it now stands, the Superintendent would be unpopular with the men and officers of the force, and his efficiency be greatly impaired. If it be the object of the section to subject the whole police force to the domination of a single will, it is well drawn to secure that result. But it is a power far more dangerous than it would be to give the Mayor power to appoint and remove, at pleasure, all the heads of departments. You close an editorial of this morning with this question, "Is it true that Mr. Davenport is to be the new Police Superintendent? We merely ask the question." I assure you, in confidence, that he is to be the new Police Superintendent. The last clause of section 121 would suggest to any one considering it carefully, as I think, that the charter is drawn with a view to an ascertained person for this office. It reads thus:

"*No subordinate* in any department, *except the Superintendent of Police*, shall receive a *greater salary* than the *highest salary* paid to the HEAD of the department."

Second.—As to the power of appointing the heads of departments. The theory of the National and State Constitutions is, that the executive appointments shall be made by the national, State, or municipal executive, and confirmed or rejected by the highest branch of the legislative body. The population of the City and County of New-York is larger than that of either of several of the New-England States, or that of either of several other of the States of the Union. The interests affected by the legislative action of the Common Council are more varied and important in their pecuniary aspects than the interests of either of the States referred to. Why should this theory, and the practice under it, to which all of our people are accustomed, be departed from, in a charter for this City? If to be departed from, why should not the change be conformed to the hopes and purposes which largely influenced the recent elections in this City? Is it not undeniable that the consideration which contributed to the election of Mayor Havemeyer was the belief that the charter would be so modified as to give to him the power of appointment and removal? If those who have the power of control are not willing to trust him in this respect, and to this extent, then why not adhere to the practice and usage which has prevailed, with a few spasmodic exceptions, from the foundation of this Government?

Third.—As to a Board of Assistant Aldermen. It is not only true, as before stated, that the population of this City is larger than that of either of several of the older States in the Union, but it is also true that at the recent census it was larger than the aggregate population of all the other cities in this State. Is it any less important, in a city of such a population and of such diversified and important interests, that the safeguards of two independent legislative bodies should exist, than in States of a smaller population? Is it not important and salutary in its effect upon the popular mind that the whole population and all its local divisions, as well as its varieties, should feel that they are, or have a chance to be, directly represented in at least one branch of the legislative body? Yours respectfully,

J. S. BOSWORTH.

The Modoc Lava Bed.

Jesse Applegate, writing to the Portland (Oregon) *Bulletin*, gives the following description of the lava bed in which the hostile Modoc Indians are now intrenched:

The stronghold of the Modoc Indians is a "pedregal" of the most extensive and elaborate description—an irregular volcanic surface of basalt, trachyte, &c., more or less broken into upheavals from below, and cracked and fissured in the process of cooling. It occupies, with but few intervals, nearly 300 square miles. If you can imagine a smooth, solid sheet of granite, ten miles square, and 500 feet thick, covering reticulations mines of gunpowder, scattered at irregular intervals under it; that these mines are exploded simultaneously, rending the whole slab into rectangular masses, from the size of a church box to that of a church, heaping these masses high in some places, and leaving deep chasms in others. Following the explosion, the whole thing is placed in one of Vulcan's crucibles and heated up to a point when the whole begins to fuse and run together, and then suffered to cool. The appearance of the upper surface of the explosion left it, while all below is honey-combed by the cracks and crevices caused by the cooling of the melted rock. An Indian can, from the top of one of these lava promontories, shoot a man without exposing even so much as an inch square of himself. He can, without undue haste, load and shoot a common muzzle-loading rifle ten times before a man can scramble over the rocks and chasms between the slain and the slayer. If, at this terrible expense of life, a force dislodges him from his cover, he has only to drop into and follow some subterranean passage with which he is familiar, to gain another ambush, from whence it will cost ten more lives to dislodge him.

A Little City in the Prairie Where Lots Are Six Feet by Thirty.

From the Chicago Tribune, Feb. 20.

It appears that Mr. G. W. Scott's land speculation—the notorious Boulevard Addition to Chicago—is being extensively dealt in throughout Michigan, Wisconsin, and the Eastern States. This week, a lawyer received a letter from a prominent New-York house, stating that the latter was about to advance $1,800 on so many lots, block so-and-so, Boulevard Addition to Chicago, and asking him to look into the title. They never questioned the value, but apparently assumed it to be ample security. The lawyer told the law reporter of the circumstance, and together they looked into the matter, discovering before long that other lawyers had received similar letters of inquiry from many States, notably Michigan and Wisconsin. As all these lawyers, basing their opinion on articles in the Chicago papers, and upon their own knowledge, scrupled not to call the Boulevard enterprise "a swindle," without having troubled themselves to certify the facts at headquarters, the reporter proceeded to repair the omission. He found that George W. Scott had purchased, for $6 per acre, the north-west quarter of the south-west quarter of Section 19, Township 37, from one John McCaffery and wife. This land is that platted as the Boulevard Addition to Chicago. Turning to the maps of the county, the reporter found no description of the land in the new maps, but in the old this land and all surrounding it was marked "swamp." Its distance from the court-house is not far short of twenty miles. The next thing to do was to examine the plats recorded by Scott. The old ones had, within past two months, been substituted by not less than seventeen new ones; and after a patient examination, the *Tribune* representative discovered that, of the seventeen plats, ten showed lots measuring each 15 feet by 80 feet; and the other six plats showed lots all measuring 6 feet 7-10 inches by 30 feet 2-10 inches. The streets measured exactly six feet in width all through, and the alleys about eighteen inches. And the conveyances show that these lots have been selling at the rate of $200 each. They are worth nothing. Of these lots, 6,048 have been platted for sale, and, once bought, they must be paid for by the purchasers; there is no getting out of the scrape by charging this is a swindle. Legality, it is nothing of the kind. The title is good, and the lots are what they are represented to be, namely, lots in the Boulevard Addition to Chicago. The pretty little plans that are produced to the intending purchaser confirm the first favorable impressions. The Boulevard Addition is regularly laid out—on paper—in avenues, and streets, and alleys, namely, Park, Willow, Grove, Eustace, Central, and Grand Drive avenues, all six rods wide, running north and south, terminating on the west by Marble-row; the north and south boundaries, running from east to west, being, north, Boulevard-avenue, and south, Promenade-avenue—beautiful, high-sounding, progressive, healthy names. What though the width of these avenues be but the length of a man, and the whole affair as unsubstantial, shadowy, and unreal as swamp can make it!

Career of a California Criminal.

From the San Francisco Chronicle, Feb. 14.

So much has been written and said of Mortimer's antecedents, and he has been charged with so many crimes in as many different parts of the world, that it is a difficult task to fix him in any particular place at any fixed time. He was first arrested in this city, by Detective Boben, on a charge of robbery. One night in February, 1863, Boben was standing in the doorway of a store on Dupont-street, near Jackson, for shelter from a cold and soaking rain that was falling. Conrad Phister, a saloon-keeper, passed along the street soon after midnight, and the officer noticed that he was carrying a bag of money under his coat. Almost in the wake of Phister followed another man, who did not notice Boben standing in the doorway. Phister had not walked many feet away, before Boben heard a quick cry of alarm, and in the dark saw two men struggling in the mud. He rushed up, secured both, and then Phister stated that he had left his saloon with $980 in his possession, and that he had been followed by the other man up to the time of the assault. Boben then arrested the stranger on a charge of robbery, and he gave the name of Charles Mortimer. For this robbery Mortimer was tried, convicted, and sentenced to San Quentin for one year by Judge Blake, now of the Municipal Court. Mortimer served out and returned to this city. One night in the early part of 1865 Charles L. Wiggin, then clerk to Mayor Coon, was in the Pony Express saloon, on Kearney-street, and among those present was Mortimer. Wiggin did considerable talking in the saloon, and when he left was "shadowed" to his home by Mortimer. After Wiggin had been in his house some time Mortimer rang the bell, and when answered by the girl, stepped boldly into the house and asked where Wiggin's room was, as he had important business with him. Mortimer went to Wiggin's room, effected an entrance, unlocked the safe, and then made off with all the valuables to be found lying around loose. Mortimer escaped to Belmont, where he was arrested, and Detective Rose was sent after him. Mortimer told Rose a long yarn about some property being hid near Santa Clara, and both started after it. At a point indicated by Mortimer, Rose began digging, and while so engaged was knocked senseless by his prisoner. Mortimer beat Rose until he thought him dead, and then robbed him of his valuables and weapons. Mortimer escaped, and kept at large until arrested and convicted of burglary at Yreka, when he was sent to San Quentin for six years. He remained there until 1871, when he was released, and rearrested on leaving the prison for the assault and robbery of Rose. The latter party had left the State, however, and the indictment against Mortimer for that is still pending. Mortimer's career of note was the murder at Sacramento, and since then he has been prominently before the public.

Cruelty to Animals in Vermont.

From the Rutland (Vt.) Herald, Feb. 22.

For the last two or three weeks the teamsters in the vicinity of Whitehall have become imbued with the idea that each drove the best team, and consequently many have been the large loads drawn, many of which taxed every muscle of the beast. On Saturday last a team owned by A. P. Cooke, of Whitehall, engaged in drawing stone from Woolsey's quarry to Carr's camp, on Lake Champlain, a distance of one and a quarter miles, drew a load that measured nine yards, three feet and 1,672 inches; weight, fourteen tons, 865 pounds. One of the beasts is twenty-one years old; the other is blind, ring-boned, and spavined; age not known. The sleigh upon which the load was drawn is twenty-one years old. The load was measured and vouched for by three engineers. In the town of Fort Ann a strife has arisen between parties drawing ore, there being many teams employed from out of town. Joel Thompson, who is the owner of a team that has been employed in towing on the canal in the Summer season, has been drawing ore this Winter, and, not to be beat by "outsiders," recently drew a load of ore from "Badger Hill" to Fort Ann Dock, a distance of one mile and a half. It weighed 30,340 pounds.

Forgeries on the Sub-Treasury in San Francisco.

From the San Francisco Bulletin, Feb. 15.

Recently numerous forged checks have been discovered, purporting to have been drawn by United States disbursing officers in Arizona and other frontier stations, on the United States Assistant Treasurer at San Francisco. These checks have all passed into the hands of innocent parties, brokers and business men, and have been presented to the amount of several thousand dollars for payment. The checks are remarkably well executed, and calculated to deceive any one who is not perfectly familiar with the signatures of those whose names are forged. Among the forged checks presented in this city are some to which the names of the following Assistant Quartermasters, stationed in Arizona, are signed, viz.: W. T. Ross, Fred. H. E. Ebstein, and F. K. Upham. Detectives have been put on the track, and it is hoped the guilty parties may be discovered. The checks are all drawn on blanks furnished by the Treasury Department for the purpose; they are all made payable to bearer, and need no indorsement. This is a requirement for the protection of the Subtreasurer, but it assists in rendering forgery more easy.

A Curious Story About Lincoln, Davis, Taylor, and Anderson.

From the Springfield (Ill.) Journal, Feb. 21.

A highly interesting scrap of history has recently come to light in relation to Mr. Lincoln. Upon the authority (so we are informed) of one of the early settlers of Illinois, Mr. Dixon, the founder of the City of Dixon, Lee County, it is stated that about the year 1832, while Gen. Z. Taylor, afterward President of the United States, was in command of the fort at Dixon's Ferry, near where Dixon now stands, Jefferson Davis, who was a lieutenant in the United States service at that time, and serving under Gen. Taylor, administered the oath to Abraham Lincoln, then a captain in the volunteer militia of this State. It is also stated upon the same authority that Gen. Robert Anderson, of Fort Sumter fame, was a lieutenant and present at the time. How different the lives of these two men.

GENERAL NOTES.

A company has been formed to build a large hotel in Harrisburg, Penn.

A woman in La Crosse, Wis., paid the fine imposed on her husband for flogging her.

The Iowa State Woman Suffrage Association will hold its annual meeting in Des Moines, March 6.

Kansas will want 1,000,000 railroad ties this year, and is asking where the timber is to come from.

A lawyer in Keokuk, Iowa, has been fined $25 for publishing a severe criticism on a judge's charge to a jury.

The appeal of the Georgia newspapers publishers to the Legislature to remove the Press tax availed nothing.

The Southern steam saw-mill owners are to have a meeting in Savannah, Ga., on Tuesday, March 18.

A young Irish girl in Jacksonville, Ill., has refused $100 for her hair. It reaches the floor when she stands erect.

An Iowa man, just because he was defeated as a Greeley elector, has got disgusted, sold his property, and gone West.

The Lieutenant-Governors of the Canadian Provinces can be addressed as "Your Honor," but can claim no other title.

Western papers mention that immense flocks of wild pigeons and large numbers of wild duck are seen flying north.

A bill is before the Senate of Michigan to provide by one general law for the incorporation of cities in that state.

Hon. R. P. Trippe, for many years a member of Congress, has been appointed and confirmed Judge of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

They tell of a Michigander who, having determined to be Governor, has gone to work to build a railroad, as a preliminary to success in his aspirations.

Gen. E. F. Bullard denies that any compromise relative to the bonds stolen from the Waterford Bank, is talked of, and he is confident that Curley will be convicted.

The Napoleon (Ohio) *Signal* favors the election of Gen. Joseph R. Hawley, of Connecticut, as Speaker of the next House of Representatives—of course, after he is re-elected.

The people of Cayuga County propose to erect a $10,000 monument to ex-Secretary Wm. H. Seward, in Fort Hill Cemetery, paying $1 each for the purpose. A bronze statue by Palmer is suggested.

An Iowa man demanded $5,000 from a neighbor for slandering him, but after sitting down and counting the cost, and reckoning up the probabilities, concluded to compromise the suit for $25 cash.

The Michigan Prohibitionists are to hold a convention in Lansing, on the 27th inst., to nominate candidates for Supreme Judges and Regents of the University, the election for which is to held in April.

The people of an Illinois village actually gave that incomparable fraud, Sergt. Bates, a public reception on his return, and called him "their distinguished townsman." What can the rest of the townsmen be?

Two sisters who receive $300 a year each for teaching in Detroit, on this sum support their aged mother and two helpless children, and meet all their own expenses. They are among those who ask for more pay.

The Leavenworth (Kansas) *Times* says that after all there was more rejoicing than regret there over the Caldwell report; and that all classes accept it as inevitably pointing to the Senator's displacement, and his immediate retirement to private life.

A Mr. Fisher, agent of a New-York house, has been bound over for trial in Paris, Ky., on the charge of false arrest, the accusation being that by means of a bogus United States Marshal he attempted to frighten a bankrupt customer into paying the full amount of his bill.

The Young Women's Christian Associations in Lowell, Mass., and Portland, Maine, have determined to open houses as temporary homes for young women, strangers, who come to those cities in search of employment. Portland gentlemen have subscribed $5,000 for this object.

A young man in Detroit, Mich., had the misfortune to cut his foot badly while splitting wood on the morning of the day set for his marriage; but the bride, learning that he could not leave the house, came to him, and they were married at his home, as he sat comfortably in a chair.

A Pennsylvania youth, on receiving a severe cowhiding from a young woman whom he had jilted, rather congratulated himself than otherwise, remarking that if she treated him so when they were not married, it was impossible to tell what he would have suffered at her hands after marriage.

The bill has already passed the House of Representatives of Ohio, prohibiting lotteries and gift enterprises of every description. An amendment to exempt churches, newspapers, and public libraries from its operations was voted down decisively, the legislators of Ohio not believing that the end justifies the means.

A Chicago wife secured the arrest of her husband for cruel treatment, mainly on the testimony of her little twelve years old son; but the next day she came forward again with an affidavit, in which she coolly averred that her little son committed gross perjury, and that her husband was the kindest man in the world.

Prof. Vanek was fined $1 in Hamilton, Canada, for striking the negro janitor of a public hall lightly with a cane. The negro was employed to turn down the gas occasionally, while a panorama was being shown, and perversely turned it completely out each time; and the slight quarrel grew out of his demands for recompense.

An old Polish physician died in Sedalia, Mo., the other day, who had among the "ornaments" of his study a skull, the history of which is curious. Forty-three years ago he had as an intimate friend a young Polish officer; together they shared the privations and the pleasures of a soldier's life. In one disastrous struggle his friend fell, and searching out his remains he severed the head from the body, prepared it, preserved it, and ever after carried it with him in all his wanderings.

Mr. William Rule, of the Knoxville (Tenn.) *Chronicle*, has refused to fight a duel with a man who thinks he has been insulted by something published in that paper. He tells him that he will not seek an opportunity to murder, or be murdered on account of statements the truth of which he can prove, and the falsity of which his challenger does not offer to show; but that he shall continue to pursue his legitimate business, and certainly shall not hesitate to defend himself as promptly and effectually as necessity may seem to require.

The Corning (N. Y.) *Journal* says: "We have watched the course of those journals in the country that require payment in advance, and we have never known one to abandon it where the experiment had fairly been tried. It is the only sensible mode of doing a business of the kind, where the creditors are scattered, and the several sums are small. We have not only tried the experiment in this office, but it has been shown to be a decided success. A year has elapsed, and all subscribers have come within the scope of the regulation, so that we can state that it has been demonstrated in the history of this office that a newspaper can be more thrifty on a cash basis than under the credit system."

Farmers' Unions and the Railroads.

From the Toledo (Ohio) Blade, Feb. 22.

There are said to be over a thousand lodges of Farmers' Unions in the two States of Iowa and Minnesota. The organization is designed to make war upon the overreaching propensities of railroad companies, and to consolidate freight in quantities which will materially reduce the rates of shipment. The contest between the people of the West and the railroad combinations against their interests, is becoming formidable in proportions, and must result disastrously for railroad companies, since the people in this country are the controlling power. The people of the West have not very far away from market, and the lowest possible rates of transportation are exceedingly burdensome, which makes them very sensitive to even the slightest semblance of extortionate charges. The expense of constructing and keeping up railroads during the past year has been unusually great, in consequence of the high price of iron, but there is little reason to doubt that charges have been unreasonable, in many instances, and well calculated to exasperate the people.

CONNECTICUT POLITICS.

A Review of the Field—The Republican Dissatisfaction in New-Haven.

From an Occasional Correspondent.

NEW-HAVEN, Conn., Thursday, Feb. 20, 1873.

The political situation in this State is not particularly encouraging for Republican success at the coming election. The gentlemen in this city who originated the Party bolt of last Spring are now assisting in another movement of the same character, and, as they control both Republican papers, hope to influence enough votes to defeat the Republican nominations. In this it is quite possible they may succeed, but, after all, the victory will be a barren one.

Mr. Haven, a worthy man of at least as good capacity as the average Governor, was regularly and fairly nominated by the State Convention, receiving a large majority over all competitors upon the first informal ballot. The New-Haven managers desired the nomination of a New-Haven candidate, and presented the name of Mr. H. B. Harrison, a well-known and respectable lawyer, against whom not a word of detraction has been uttered. At any other time his chances before the convention would have been good, but, unfortunately, he was backed by the men who last year defeated the regular Republican nominee for Senator, and the great majority of the convention met unnaturally were of the opinion that to nominate him would be a virtual indorsement of the bolters. It was this—nothing less and nothing more—that gave the nomination to Mr. Haven.

No sensible person believes there was any intention to cast any slight upon this city, but simply to say that the party was not willing that bolters should dictate nominations. But the papers of New-Haven of both parties are very bitter in their denunciation of the convention, pronouncing its action an insult to the city, and asserts that it was the work of the "rotten boroughs," by which are meant the country towns. It is possible that by thus working on local prejudices they may occasion sufficient defection to defeat the ticket. Supposing they do—what then?

To a disinterested observer it seems very much as if, in this matter, the New-Haven political leaders are carrying out the same shortsighted and stupid policy which has characterized their action for several years past. It is a matter of comparatively slight importance whether Mr. Haven or Mr. Ingersoll shall be the Governor of Connecticut for the next year. There are other matters to be decided of far greater consequence.

The capital question has been before the people for several years, and it is quite probable that the action of the Legislature during the present year will settle it for good, to all intents and purposes. Two years ago the blunders of New-Haven management gave Hartford a great advantage. The very fair proposition was made in the Legislature to submit the question to the people of the State to decide if they would have but one capital, and where it should be located. Hartford shrewdly favored it, but as it was a constitutional amendment, and therefore required a two-thirds vote, New-Haven succeeded in defeating it by a few votes, although there was a large majority in its favor. In doing this New-Haven gained the ill-will of a large portion of the State, which, had the question been submitted to the people, would have voted in favor of New-Haven. This was Hartford's opportunity, and she was not slow to improve it. A resolution was introduced appropriating $500,000 for a new State House in Hartford, and was carried by a majority vote. Already plans for the new building have been accepted, and preparations have been made to push the work vigorously in the Spring. This will make a strong argument in favor of Hartford as the sole capital, for there is no doubt that a large majority of the people of the State do not desire two capitals. As yet, however, so little actual expense has been incurred for the Hartford building that the question might still be submitted to the people with an even chance in favor of New-Haven. But of course the only hope is in a Legislature not prejudiced against this city.

Under these circumstances it requires no prophet to foretell the result of the defeat of Mr. Haven by the disaffection and bolting of New-Haven Republicans. This city has always counted on the support of the towns in New-London and Fairfield Counties. The former was a unit in the convention for the nomination of Mr. Haven, and he also received a majority of the votes from Fairfield County. The Republicans of both these counties, as well as those of the State, believe that Mr. Haven was fairly nominated, and will be sure to resent his defeat. The legislature is sure to be largely Republican, whoever the State officers may be.

The Democrats, hoping to profit by the local feeling in this city, have nominated Mr. Ingersoll, one of our ablest lawyers, and an excellent man. But there is a serious disturbance in the Democratic ranks here, which is not unlikely before election to ripen into open disaffection and materially interfere with Mr. Ingersoll's chances. In fact, his chances would be very small were it not for the threatened bolt, which, it is to be hoped, will yet be prevented by the good sense of the people.

The New-York City Mission and Church Extension Society—Services in Its Behalf.

Services were held last evening in the Rose Hill Methodist Church in behalf of the New-York City Mission and Church Extension Society. The Pastor, Rev. Mr. Dickinson, introduced Rev. J. W. Barnhart, of Forsyth-street Church, who made a brief address, giving the history of the Missionary Society in his district, and urging the congregation to come forward and help in the good work. Rev. Mr. Steele, of Beekman Hill Church, followed, and reviewed at length the progress of the society. He stated that there is within a mile of the City Hall a vast population, the majority of whom never see the inside of a church. They are ashamed to enter a house of worship because they are so poorly dressed, therefore missionaries have been employed to go from house to house among these deserving people, and in some places hold small meetings. Mr. W. K. Peyton, Treasurer of the Society, spoke of its success in the past, and gave the statistics of the churches, missionaries, conversions, &c., which have before been published. In conclusion, the pastor said that there would be no collection taken up, but in a few weeks he will have circulars given to each member, and a general collection will then be made.

The Cosmopolitan Conference—The Value of Labor.

The Cosmopolitan Conference met, yesterday afternoon, at No. 66 East Fourth-street, Col. Beeny in the chair. The proceedings were opened by the singing of a song, entitled the "Death of Freedom," by Mr. Macgregor.

Mr. Hanson then delivered a short address advocating the adoption of a peculiar law of equity for the remuneration of labor, the principle of which seemed to be that a day's work should be given in return for a day's work, no matter whether it be skilled on the one side and unskilled on the other or not, but bringing all labor, whether mental or physical, down to one common level.

Mr. Mac Mackie then ascended the rostrum and delivered a long oration, tending to prove that labor is destined to rule the world, and the world to be ruled by labor. He contended that governments, as they at present exist, were established by might, fraud, and corruption, and that it behoved the people to assert their strength, to assume their right to self-government and the possession of all lands, railroads, telegraphs, and other industries, which he felt convinced would be the upshot of the present labor question, and only then would labor be recognized and acknowledged as it deserved to be.

Dr. Stephens followed in support of the arguments of the previous speaker, and the conference adjourned.

A Bequet of rare and delicate odor—BURNETT'S FLORINEL. For sale by all druggists.—*Advertisement.*

New-York Stencil Works, No. 97 Nassau-st., New-York.

A New and Beautiful Shade for Artificial Teeth.

Dr. M. LEVETT, dentist, invites inspection of a remarkable invention, which, in conjunction with his own patent air-cells, forms a most beautiful base, being perfectly healthy, cool, tasteless, pure, flexible, light, transparent, flexible, warranted durable, and feeling like the skin of the gums. It has only to be seen to be understood and appreciated.
NO. 29 EAST 16TH-ST., NEAR TIFFANY'S.

A.—The Russian Vapor

(Marble) Baths, No. 25 East 4th-st., near Grand Central Hotel, are the most healthful, extensive, elegantly-arranged, and largely-patronized baths in the United States. Open daily, 7 A. M. to 9 P. M. Ladies, 10 to 12 A. M.

Batchelor's Hair Dye is the **Best** in the world; the only safe, true and perfect hair dye. No ridiculous tints—no disappointment—harmless, reliable, instantaneous. Black or brown. At all druggists and No. 16 Bond-st.

MARRIED.

CHAPMAN—DIMON.—On Thursday evening, Feb. 20, by Rev. N. H. Schenck, D. D., JOHN W. CHAPMAN to MARY C., only daughter of Charles Dimon, Esq., all of Brooklyn.

HOPE DOEG—CORLIES.—At Athens, N. Y., on the 20th inst., at the residence of Abraham Lawton, by friends' ceremony, ALFRED HOPE DOEG to ANNA LIA CORLIES, both of New-York.

LOWTHER—MEYER.—On Thursday, Feb. 20, by Rev. [illegible] St. Tyng, Jr., GEORGE LOWTHER to KITTY LOUISE, only daughter of Conway Meyer, Esq., all of this City.

DIED.

FAIRE.—At West Farms, Jan. 12, 1873, THOMAS HALL FEILD, in the 70th year of his age.

Funeral services will be held at the Presbyterian Church, corner of Liberty and 4th-st., on Monday, Feb. 24, at 4 o'clock P. M.

GORDON.—At Stapleton, Staten Island, on Saturday, 22d inst., KATE E., wife of R. W. Gordon, Jr., and daughter of the late John Monteith, Esq.

Funeral services from St. Paul's Memorial Church, Edgewater, Staten Island, on Tuesday, 25th inst., at 3 P. M.

KIPP.—On Friday, Feb. 21, at Dundee, N. J., PETER P. KIPP, in the 81st year of his age.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend his funeral at his late residence on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 1 o'clock P. M. Carriages in waiting at Clifton Depot on arrival of 12 o'clock train from New-York.

LEARY.—At sea, Feb. 11, on the voyage from Rio Janeiro to New-York, of congestion of the lungs, DANIEL D. LEARY, of this City, in the 44th year of his age.

The friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Mott and Prince sts., to-morrow (Tuesday) morning, at 10 o'clock.

LYON.—On Saturday, Feb. 22, at Bayonne, N. J., JESSIE, wife of William J. Lyon, and daughter of Francis H. Chichester.

Relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, on Tuesday, the 25th, at 10 A. M., from Bayonne-st. Train on New-Jersey Central Railroad foot of Liberty-st., New-York.

PAINE.—On Sunday, 23d inst., of scarlet fever, ALICE PAY, eldest daughter of Augustus G. and Charlotte M. Paine, in the 9th year of her age.

Funeral will take place at the residence of her parents, No. 31 West 50th-st., on Tuesday morning, Feb. 25, at 11 o'clock.

☞ Boston and Portland papers please copy.

PAULDING.—Friday, Feb. 21, ELEANOR, widow of George Paulding, in the 89th year of her age.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, No. 24 Charlton-st., on Monday, Feb. 24, at 12 M.

RICARDO.—At Hackensack, N. J., Feb. 22, CARRIE B. RICARDO, in the 17th year of her age, daughter of the late Geo. Ricardo.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from her late residence at Hackensack, on Wednesday, 26th, at 2½ o'clock. Trains leave New-York, via Erie Railroad, at 1 o'clock P. M.

ROBINSON.—On Friday, Feb. 21, ALBERT W. ROBINSON, in the 53d year of his age.

Funeral from the residence of his family, No. 189 West 45th-st., this day, at 1½ o'clock.

SAYRE.—At Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Feb. 22, LORENA ALIDA, eldest daughter of William R. and the late Rebecca Sayre.

The remains will arrive at Grand Central Depot, on the 25th, at 10¼ A. M.

STEVENSON.—Suddenly, on Friday morning, Feb. 21, Mrs. ELIZABETH STEVENSON, widow of Walter Stevenson, in the 72d year of her age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, No. 426 6th-av., on Monday, Feb. 24, at 2 o'clock P. M.

VINTON.—Feb. 21, at his residence, Stamford, Conn., Brevet Major-Gen. DAVID H. VINTON, U. S. A., aged 70 years.

Funeral services will be held in St. John's Church, Stamford, at 11:30 o'clock, on Tuesday, 25th inst. A train will leave the New-Haven Depot at 9:08 A. M.

☞ Providence, R. I., papers please copy.

WILSON.—At Kingston, N. Y., Thursday, Feb. 20, after a short illness, ANN CLARE TEAL, widow of Jonathan D. Wilson.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral from the First Reformed Church, at Kingston, on Monday, the 24th inst., at 2 P. M.

WHITE.—Suddenly, on Sunday morning, 23d inst., EMERLINE H., wife of Thomas R. White.

Notice of funeral hereafter.

WENDELL.—At Brooklyn, on Friday, Feb. 21, CATHARINE WENDELL, in the 86th year of her age.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of Mr. B. T. Roseland, No. 27 Hoyt-st., Brooklyn, on Tuesday, 25th inst., at 1 P. M. The remains will be taken to Catskill for interment.

☞ Geneva papers please copy.

WESTBROOK.—Departed this life at residence of her devoted daughter, Mrs. L. Van Deusen, at City of Kingston, 18th inst., SARAH BEEKMAN, widow of Rev. Dr. C. D. Westbrook, aged 82, daughter of Col. Beekman, of the American revolution of 1776.

Liberally educated, and qualified to adorn any station in life, her ambition was to aid her husband in educating and training a family of eleven children for the stern realities of life. Her numerous friends can testify how untiring was her devotion; how nobly she contributed, how successfully she accomplished, by qualifications she so pre-eminently possessed, those important duties to her family, and to society. She departed in peace and in decided anticipation of a happy immortal life. Among those surviving children are Hon. Theodorie R. Westbrook, Col. C. D. Westbrook, Charles R. and Frederick R. Westbrook.

MISCELLANEOUS.

COMMITTEE OF SEVENTY.

A mass-meeting of the citizens of New-York in favor of a substantial reform of the City Government, and opposed to the provisions of the charter now pending before the Legislature, which do not promise to secure such a result, will be held at Cooper Institute on TUESDAY EVENING, the 25th inst., at 8 o'clock.

By order of the Committee.

JAMES

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.

The past week, ending with Saturday, Feb. 22, has been one of real activity, the sales at the Exchange having been numerous and well attended, while the total values of City real estate sold has amounted to the large sum of $568,225, as against the sum of $378,400, the aggregate for the week ending with Saturday, Feb. 15. The market gives evidence of greater strength than has been noticeable for months past, and should the same interest be manifested in the important sales to occur during the present week, the real estate business will present a brighter and a better look. The principal public transactions of the week have been as follows: Tuesday, sales of the week have been as follows: Tuesday, Feb. 18, partition sale by Muller, Wilkins & Co., of property located respectively on Waverley-place, Seventy-second, and Water streets, to the value of $128,250. Same day, foreclosure sale by A. J. Bleecker & Co., of a brown-stone house and lot on East Sixty-eighth-street, 150 feet east of Madison-avenue, for $47,000; and same day, public auction sale by Jere. Johnson, Jr., of plots of six lots on the north-east corner of south Eighth and Fourth streets, Brooklyn, for $44,000. Thursday, Feb. 20, Supreme Court partition sale, by Messrs. Muller & Co., of the store and lot No. 213 Broadway, west side, between Franklin and White streets, for $131,500. Also, same day, sale by same firm, of property on Dey, Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets, belonging to the estate of Jacob Reppert, deceased, to the value of $70,300. Friday, the most important private transaction reported during the week in the sale made by Messrs. E. H. Ludlow & Co. to the proprietors of the Evening Express, mortgagee of the property located on the south-east corner of Nassau and Fulton-street, embracing a lot 83 by 150, with five-story brick buildings thereon, for $220,000. Only a portion of the property is sold and the sale, in part, is at $125,000 was paid, the terms being inclined in amount above noted; the balance is a leasehold owned by the Collegiate Reformed Church of America. Saturday, Feb. 22, the sale of property, some fourteen years to run, with two or three covenants for renewal. The buildings at present on the lot are to be immediately removed, and first-class improvements made. The location is one of the most desirable for business purposes in the City, and at the price sold the purchase may be termed a bargain. Some six owners were interested in the property, and negotiations had to be entered into with all these before the sale could be consummated. These negotiations have been in progress for some time past, and were only concluded last week.

For the convenience of those interested in Brooklyn real estate, Jere. Johnson, Jr., the enterprising auctioneer, has leased for the purposes of an exchange the rooms Nos. 48 and 49 Fulton-street, Brooklyn, opposite the Court-house, a most eligible location. Mr. Johnson will conduct auctions of real estate held in Brooklyn at this place, and other arrangements will be allowed to avail themselves of the facilities thus provided.

THE WEEK'S PROPOSED BUSINESS.

The auctions to take place during the present week are as follows, at which the real estate noted will be offered for sale by the auctioneers respectively named, sales all at 12 M., and at Exchange, unless otherwise stated.

To-day, (Monday,) Feb. 24.

By R. H. Ludlow & Co., foreclosure sale by order of the Supreme Court, Charles H. Hildreth, Esq., referee, of the store, tenement, and lot No. 240 Chrystie-st., east side, 74.3 feet south of Houston-st.; lot 25 by 75, building 60 feet deep.

By Hugh N. Camp, adjourned foreclosure sale, by order of the Court of Common Pleas, R. M. Harrison, Esq., referee, of a four-story brown-stone French-flat house and lot, situate on Lexington-avenue, west side, 60 feet north of Fiftieth-street; lot 24 by 75.

By Joseph McGuire, foreclosure sale, by order of the Supreme Court, Charles C. Bigelow, Esq., referee, of two houses and lots on West Forty-sixth-street, south side, 275 feet west of Broadway; lots each 34.7 by 100.5; block.

By J. Cole, at Commercial Exchange, No. 389 Fulton-street, Brooklyn, public auction sale of the two-story brick dwelling, store and lot, 19 by 70 feet, No. 63 Third-street, Brooklyn; also, at the Kings County Court-house, the two-story and basement brick house and lot, No. 259 Sixth-street, Brooklyn.

To-morrow, (Tuesday,) Feb. 25.

By Muller, Wilkins & Co., executors' sale, by order of the executors of the estate of James Boorman, deceased, of the following valuable City property: The five-story brick building and lots situate on the south-westerly corner of Nassau and Liberty streets, known as Nos. 1 and 3 Nassau-street and Nos. 52 and 54 Liberty-street, directly opposite the Post-office. The building, which covers almost the entire land, is substantially built, and is conveniently divided for business purposes, as it has a depth of 94 feet 6 inches on Nassau-street and 111 feet on Liberty-street. The four-story brown-stone front house and lot on the southerly side of Thirty-ninth-street, between Fifth and Madison-avenues, known as No. 15. House is also modern improvements; lot 22 by 98.9. And four lots on the south-east corner of Fourth-avenue and Ninety-eighth-street. Corner lot, 25.10 by 100 feet; inside lots, 25 by 100 feet. Also, executors' sale, by order of the executors of the estate of Timothy H. Burger, deceased, of the two brick buildings and lots situate on the easterly side of Pearl-street, between Cherry and Oak-streets, known as Nos. 384 and 386 Pearl-street; lots together, 34.4½ front, 122.1 on south side, and 110.4 on north side. Also, public auction sale of an old City property, viz.: The City of land, with the three-story brick frame houses thereon, situate on the south-easterly corner of Broome and Mangin streets, known as No. 17 Broome-street, lot 26 by 75 feet, and the three-story Mahogny brown-stone-front house and lot situate on the south side of West Fiftieth-street, 310 feet west of Eighth-avenue, known as No. 327; house about 45 feet deep, contains modern improvements, and in good order; lot 18.7 by 100.5

By A. J. Bleecker, Son & Co., partition sale, by order of the supreme Court, David A. Scott, Esq., referee, of the valuable City real estate, viz.: One four-story brick building and lot, No. 16 Broadway, east side, 26.6 feet north of Beaver-street. Lot 30.9 feet front, 26.10 feet rear, 108.8 feet on northerly line, and 104.7 feet on southerly line; building about 80 feet deep. The three-story brick building and lot, No. 7 Church-street, east side, 25.6 feet south of Cedar-street. Lot 25.6 by 26; building covers same. The three-story brick dwelling and lot, No. 10 Twenty-fourth-st., south side, 215 feet north of Rector-street. Lot 27.3 by 107.2 by 23.3 by 105; house about 55 feet deep. Premises No. 25 Greenwich-street, east side, 103.4 feet south of Morris-st., embracing a lot in size 25.9 by 80, with two three-story brick houses thereon, front and rear respectively. Premises No. 54 Clinton-place, south side, 154.7 feet west of University-place, embracing a lot in size above, of 25 by 100 feet, with a three and a half story brick dwelling house upon the front thereof, and a two-story brick stable in rear; house in size 25 by 48; stable 25 by 22.1, fronting on an alley in rear of lot. Also, the four-story brick house, No. 7 Nov. 1 present year, with covenant for twenty-one years' renewal; ground rent $375 per annum. Also, foreclosure sale, by order of Supreme Court, same referee as above, of the house and lot No. 14 Mulberry-street, east side, 66.1 feet south of Worth-street. Lot 25 by 76.7 by 27 by 85.1.

By R. H. Ludlow & Co., executor's sale, by order of the executor of the estate of David A. Smith, deceased, of the three-story and basement high-stoop brick house and lot, No. 31 East Twenty-seventh-street, north side, 240 feet east of Broadway; lot, 21.4 by 92; house, 21.4 by 41.8 with two-story brick extension, 21.4 by 10.9. Also, public auction sale of the four-story and basement high-stoop brick house and lot, No. 23 West Thirty-ninth-street, south side, 100 feet west of Fifth-avenue; lot, 25 by 98.11; house, 25 by 48, with two-story extension, 12 feet deep.

By James M. Miller, adjourned foreclosure sale, by order of the Court, Leonard W. Kempt, Esq., referee, of two lots, with two buildings, on East Fifty-seventh-street, south side, 218 feet east of Lexington-avenue; lots together in size, 52 by 100.5. Also, foreclosure sale, by order of same Court, Gilbert H. Crawford, Esq., referee, of the lease of one lot of land, south side West Twenty-first-street, 100 feet west of Tenth-avenue, with the four-story English basement brick dwelling, with brown-stone trimmings, 25 by 40, in front, and a three-story brick building, 25 by 26, on rear. The lease has twenty-one years to run from May 1, 1868, with covenant of renewal. Ground rent, $260 per annum, taxes and assessments; lot in size, 25 by 91.11.

By Joseph McGuire, adjourned foreclosure sale, by order of the Supreme Court, John L. Post, Esq., referee, of the five-story brick tenement house and lot, situate on Delancey-street, north side, 25 feet west of Pitt-street; lot, 25 by 75.

By Wm. Kennelly, foreclosure sale, by order of the Supreme Court, M. P. Brennan, Esq., referee, of a house and lot, situate on the West Thirty-second-street, north side, 200 feet east of Eleventh-avenue, lot 25 by 98.9.

By Jere Johnson, Jr., at the New Exchange, Nos. 399 and 401 Fulton-street, Brooklyn, public auction sale of the following valuable building lots, lots in size 25 by 100 feet each, viz.: Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79,

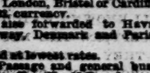
SHIPPING.

NATIONAL LINE
OF STEAM-SHIPS.

WEEKLY TO QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.
FOR PASSENGERS TO LONDON DIRECT.
Passengers booked at 41 to 44 Broadway.

NEW YORK TO LONDONDERRY AND LIVERPOOL.
FERIA.....Wednesday, Feb. 26, at 3 P. M.
SPAIN, Gracie.....Wednesday, Mar. 5, at 9 A. M.
ITALY, Thompson.....Wednesday, Mar. 12, at 3 P. M.
TO LONDON DIRECT.
DENMARK, Gibbons.....Saturday, March 8, at 12 M.
THE LARGEST IN THE TRADE.
Cabin passage.....$75 and $80, currency
Steerage.....$25 currency
Prepaid steerage tickets from Liverpool, Queenstown, Londonderry, Glasgow, Cardiff, Bristol, or London.
CHEAPER THAN BY ANY OTHER LINE.
For further information, apply at the Company's office, No. 69 Broadway
F. W. J. HURST, Manager.

CUNARD LINE.



THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAM-SHIPS, BETWEEN NEW YORK AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT CORK HARBOR.

FROM NEW-YORK.
Abyssinia, Wed., Feb. 26 | Parisian, Wed., March 19.
Algeria, Wed'day, March 5. *Cuba, Wed., March 26.
Calabria, Wed., March 12 | Abyssinia, Wed., April 2.
And every following WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, from pier foot of Canal-st.
Steamers marked thus * do not carry steerage passengers.
RATES OF PASSAGE.
Cabin, $80, $100, and $130, gold, according to accommodation.
Tickets to Paris, $95, gold, additional.
Return tickets on favorable terms.
Steerage.....$30, currency
Steerage tickets from Liverpool and Queenstown and all parts of Europe at lowest rates.
Through Bills of Lading given for Belfast, Glasgow, Havre, Antwerp, and other ports on the Continent, and for Mediterranean ports.
For freight and cabin passage apply at the Company's office, No. 4 Bowling-green.
For steerage passage at No. 111 Broadway, Trinity Building.
CHAS. G. FRANCKLYN, Agent.

WHITE STAR LINE,
FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.
CARRYING THE
UNITED STATES MAIL.
NEW AND FULL-POWERED STEAM-SHIPS,
sailing from New-York on SATURDAYS, from Liverpool on THURSDAYS, calling at Cork Harbor each way.
ATLANTIC.....SATURDAY, Mar. 1, at 7:30 A. M.
REPUBLIC.....SATURDAY, Mar. 8, at 1 P. M.
ADRIATIC.....SATURDAY, Mar. 15, at 3 P. M.
BALTIC.....SATURDAY, Mar. 22, at 12 M.
CELTIC.....SATURDAY, Mar. 29, at 3 P. M.
From White Star Dock, Pavonia Ferry, Jersey City.
Passenger accommodations (for all classes) unrivalled, combining
SAFETY, SPEED AND COMFORT.
Saloon, State-rooms, Smoking-room and Bath-rooms in MIDSHIP section, where least motion is felt. Surgeons and stewardesses accompany these steamers.
Rates—Saloon, $80, gold; (for sailings after 1st April, $100 gold.) Steerage, $30, currency. Those wishing to send for their friends can obtain prepaid certificates. Drafts for £1 and upward.
For freight or passage apply to
J. H. SPARKS, Agent.

ANCHOR LINE.
EXPRESS STEAMERS SAIL FROM PIER NO. 20 NORTH RIVER, NEW-YORK.
ITALIA, Capt. McMILLAN, Wednesday, Mar. 5
EUROPA....Sat., Mar. 1 | CALIFORNIA, Sat., Mar. 8
TO LONDON DIRECT.
DENMARK, GIBBONS.....Saturday, March 8, at 12 M.
THE LARGEST IN THE TRADE.
Cabin passage.....$75 and $80, currency
Steerage.....$28 currency
Prepaid steerage tickets from Liverpool, Queenstown, Londonderry, Glasgow, Cardiff, Bristol, or London.
CHEAPER THAN BY ANY OTHER LINE.
For further information, apply at the Company's office, No. 69 Broadway
F. W. J. HURST, Manager.

CUNARD LINE.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAM-SHIPS, BETWEEN NEW YORK AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT CORK HARBOR.

FROM NEW-YORK.
Abyssinia, Wed., Feb. 26 | Parisian, Wed., March 19.
Algeria, Wed'day, March 5. *Cuba, Wed., March 26.
Calabria, Wed., March 12 | Abyssinia, Wed., April 2.
And every following WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, from Pier No. 45 North River.
Steamers marked thus * do not carry steerage passengers.
RATES OF PASSAGE.
Cabin, $80, $100, and $130, gold, according to accommodation.
Tickets to Paris, $95, gold, additional.
Return tickets on favorable terms.
Steerage.....$30, currency
Steerage tickets from Liverpool and Queenstown and all parts of Europe at lowest rates.
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For freight or passage apply to
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SHIPPING.

NEW-YORK TO CARDIFF.
The South Wales Atlantic Steam-ship Company's New First-class Full-powered Clyde-built Steam-ships
WILL SAIL FROM PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD WHARF, JERSEY CITY.
GLAMORGAN.....March 19
PEMBROKE.....April 2
GLAMORGAN.....April 30
PEMBROKE.....May 21
Carry'ge goods and passengers at through rates from all parts of the United States and Canada to ports in the Bristol Channel and all other points in England.
These steam ships, built expressly for the trade, are provided with all the latest improvements for the comfort and convenience of
CABIN AND STEERAGE PASSENGERS.
First Cabin.....$75 and $80 currency
Second Cabin.....45 currency
Steerage.....30 currency
Prepaid steerage certificates from Cardiff.....$25
Drafts for £1 and upwards.
For further particulars apply, in Cardiff at the Company's offices, No. 1 Dock Chambers—and in New-York, to
ARCHIBALD BAXTER & CO., Agents,
No. 17 Broadway.

THE GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE
FOR CHARLESTON, S. C., THE FLORIDA PORTS, AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.
Tri-weekly lines. TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY. Sailing from Pier No. 29 North River, at 3 P. M. The side-wheel steam-ships
JAMES ADGER, Capt. T. J. LOCKWOOD, Feb. 25.
GEORGIA, Capt. HOLMES, Feb. 27.
MANHATTAN, Capt. M. S. WOODHULL, March 1.
Extra Steamers will sail as soon as loaded.
Superior accommodations for passengers. Through passage tickets and bills of lading issued in connection with the South Carolina railroads to all points South and South-west, and over the North-eastern Railroad to Florence. Cheraw, and all points on the Cheraw and Darlington Railroad, and with steamers to Florida ports. Insurance by this line ONE-HALF PER CENT. Goods forwarded free of commission. Bills of lading furnished and signed at the office. Local Passenger and Freight Office, No. 177 West-st., corner of Vesey-st.
HENRY B. MORGAN & CO., Agents.
For through freight tariff, or further information in reference to through freight, apply to
BENTLEY D. HASKLL,
General Agent Great Southern Freight Line, No. 317 Broadway, corner Thomas-st., New-York.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA.,
THE FLORIDA PORTS,
AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.
GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE.
CENTRAL RAILROAD OF GEORGIA AND ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD.
TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS.
THE STEAM-SHIPS
VIRGO, Capt. BULKLEY, TUESDAY, Feb. 25, from Pier No. 16 East River, at 3 P. M.
MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., Agents,
No. 62 South-st.

HERMAN LIVINGSTON, Capt. CHESSMAN, THURSDAY, Feb. 27, from Pier No. 8 North River, at 3 P. M.
WM. H. GARRISON, Agent.
No. 5 Bowling-green.

HUNTSVILLE, Capt. CROWELL, SATURDAY, March 1, from Pier No. 13 North River, at 3 P. M.
R. LOWDEN, Agent,
No. 93 West-st.

SAN SALVADOR, Capt. NICKERSON, SATURDAY, March 1, from Pier No. 8 North River, at 3 P. M.
WM. H. GARRISON, Agent,
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Insurance by this line ONE-HALF PER CENT.
Superior accommodations for passengers.
Through rates and bills of lading in connection with Central Railroad of Georgia, to all points.
Through bills of lading in connection with the Atlantic and Gulf Freight line.
C. D. OWENS, Agent Ga. R. R.
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No. 229 Broadway. No. 409 Broadway

DIRECT LINE TO HAVANA.
HAVANA, PROGRESO AND VERA CRUZ.
New-York and Mexican Mail Steam-ship Line, leaving Pier No. 4 North River, at 3 P. M., every Thursday.
WILMINGTON, (Havana only,).....Feb. 20
CITY OF MERIDA, (Havana and Mexico,)...Feb. 27
CITY OF HAVANA, (Havana only,).....March 6
CLEOPATRA, (Havana only).....March 13
For freight or passage apply to
F. ALEXANDRE & SONS, No. 32 Broadway.
EXCELSIOR STEAM PR.—Steamer CLEOPATRA will sail for Havana on SATURDAY, Feb. 22.

UNITED STATES PASSPORT BUREAU.—United States passports, indispensable to travelers, issued by J. B. NONES, Passport Agent, No. 91 Duane-st., corner Broadway.

RAILROADS.

NEW-YORK, NEW-HAVEN, AND HARTFORD RAILROAD
NEW-YORK AND NEW-HAVEN DIVISION.
WINTER ARRANGEMENT,
COMMENCING NOV. 21, 1872.
Passenger Stations in New-York, Grand Central Depot. Entrance on 42d-st.
TRAINS LEAVE NEW-YORK.
For New-Haven, 7:30, 8:00 (Ex.), 11:30 A. M.; 12:23 P. M.; 2:00 (Ex.), 3:55, 4:30, 5:30, 8:00 (Ex.,) and 9:10 (Ex.) P. M.
For Bridgeport, 7:30, 8:00 (Ex.), 9:00, 11:30 A. M.; 12:23 (Ex.,) 2:00 (Ex.,) 3:55, 4:30, 5:30, 8:00 (Ex.,) and 9:10 (Ex.) P. M.
For Milford and Stratford, 7:30, 11:30 A. M.; 3:55, 4:30, and 5:30 P. M.
For Fairfield, Southport, and Westport, 7:30, 9:00, 11:30 A. M.; 3:55, 4:30, 5:30, and 8:00 P. M.
For South Norwalk, 7:30, 8:00 (Ex.,) 9:00, 11:30 A. M.; 12:23 (Ex.,) 2:00 (Ex.,) 3:55, 4:30 (Ex.,) 5:30, 6:30, 8:00 (Ex.,) and 9:10 (Ex.) P. M.
For Darien, 7:30, 9:00, 11:30 A. M.; 3:55, 4:30, 5:30, and 8:30 P. M.
For Stamford, 7:30, 8:00 (Ex.,) 9:00, 10:00, 11:30 A. M.; 12:23 (Ex.,) 2:00, 3:55, 4:30 (Ex.,) 5:30, 6:30, 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 P. M.
For Greenwich, 7:30, 8:00 (Ex.,) 9:00, 10:00, 11:30 A. M.; 12:23, 2:00 (Ex.,) stopping at New-Rochelle and Port Chester, and 9:10 (Ex.) P. M., stopping at Mount Vernon, Mamaroneck, and Rye.
For Greenwich and intermediate stations, 7:30, 9:00, 10:00, 11:30 A. M.; 2:22, 3:55, 4:30, 5:30, 6:00, 8:30, 7:23 P. M.
Sunday mail train leaves Grand Central Depot, 42d-st. New-York, at 7:00 P. M., for Boston, via Springfield line, stopping at New-Rochelle, Port Chester, Stamford, South Norwalk, and Bridgeport, and at 9:10 P. M., for Boston via Shore Line, stopping at Mount Vernon, Mamaroneck, and Rye.
CONNECTING TRAINS.
For Boston, via Shore Line, 12:23, 9:10 P. M.
For Hartford and Springfield, 8:00 A. M.; 12:23, 3:55, and 8:00 P. M.
For Newport, R. I., 8:00 A. M.
For Connecticut River Railroad, 8:00 A. M., 12:23 P. M. to Greenfield; 3:55 P. M. to Montreal and White Mountains.
For Housatonic Railroad, 8:00 A. M. and 3:55 P. M.
For Naugatuck Railroad, 8:00 A. M. and 3:55 P. M.
For Danbury and Norwalk Railroad, 7:30, 8:00, and 9:00 A. M.; 12:23 and 4:30 P. M.
For Shepaug Valley Railroad, via Danbury and Norwalk R. R., 8:00 A. M. and 4:30 P. M.
For New-Canaan Railroad, 8:00 A. M.; 12:23, 4:30, and 5:30 P. M.
Commodious sleeping-cars attached to 8:00 and 9:10 P. M. trains, and also to Sunday Mail trains on either line. Drawing-room cars attached to the 8:00 A. M., 12:23 and 3:55 P. M. trains.
Passengers can procure tickets to any point reached over this road at the Grand Central Depot, corner 42d-st and 4th-av.; also at the offices of the New-York Transfer Co. (Dodge Express,) No. 944 Broadway, and No. 1 Court-st., Brooklyn; and by leaving suitable notice can have their baggage called for and checked from residence to destination.
JOHN T. MOODY, Sup't N. Y. & N. H. Div.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.
Trains leave New-York, from foot of Desbrosses and Cortlandt sts., as follows:
Express for Harrisburg, Pittsburg, the West, and South, with Pullman Palace Cars attached, 9:30 A. M., 5, 7, and 8:30 P. M. Sunday, 5, 7, 8:30 P. M.
For Baltimore, Washington, and the south at 9 A. M., 1, 9 P. M. Sunday, 9 P. M.
For Philadelphia, 5, 9:30 A. M., 12:30, 1, 4, 5, 6, 8:30, 9 P. M., and 12 night. Sunday, 4, 8:30, and 9 P. M.
For Philadelphia, via Kensington, at 7 A. M. and 2 P. M.
Emigrant and second class, 7:15 P. M.
For Newark at 6, 6:30, 7, 7:30, 8, 9, 10, 11, 11:30 A. M., 12:30, 1, 2, 3, 3:30, 4, 4:30, 5, 5:30, 6, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9, 10 P. M., and 12 night. Sunday 8:20 and 9 P. M.
For Elizabeth, 6, 6:30, 7, 7:30, 8, 8:30, 9, 10, 11, 11:30 A. M., 12:30, 1, 2, 3, 3:30, 4, 4:30, 5, 5:30, 6, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9, 10 P. M., and 12 night. Sunday 8:20 and 9 P. M.
For Rahway, 6, 6:30, 7, 8, 10, 9:30, and 10 A. M., 12 M., 1, 2, 3, 3:30, 4, 4:30, 5, 5:30, 6, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9, 10 P. M., and 12 night. Sunday 5:20 and 6 P. M.
For Woodbridge and Perth Amboy, 6 and 10 A. M., 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, and 6:30 P. M.
For New-Brunswick, 7, 10 A. M., 12 M., 1, 2, 3, 4:10, 5:20, 6, 9 P. M., and 12 night. Sunday 6 and 9 P. M.
For East Millstone, 7 A. M., 12 M., 4:10 and 5:20 P. M.
For Lambertville and Flemington, 9 A. M. and 2 P. M.
For Phillipsburg and Belvidere, 2 and 4 P. M.
Accommodation for Bordentown, Burlington, and Camden, 7 and 9:30 A. M., 2:30, 3, 3, 3:30, 4, and 6 P. M.
For Freehold, 7, 9 A. M., 3 and 4 P. M.
For Jamesburg, Pemberton, Camden, 6 A. M., 3:40 P. M.
Trains arrive as follows: From Pittsburg, 6:50 A. M., 1:03 P. M., daily; 10:14 A. M. and 6:34 P. M., daily, except Monday. From Washington and Baltimore, 6:40 A. M., 4:54, 10:12 P. M., Sunday 6:40 A. M. From Philadelphia, 2:30, 10:14, 11:50, 11:54 A. M., 2:14, 3:54, 6:04, 8:42 P. M., Sunday, 2:21, 3:40, 10:04 A. M. Ticket offices, Nos. 526, 435, 271, and 944 Broadway; No. 1 Astor House, and foot of Desbrosses and Cortlandt sts. Emigrant Ticket-office, No. 8 Battery-place.
A. J. CASSETT, Gen. Pass. Agent.
J. N. DUBARRY, General Manager.

LONG ISLAND RAILROAD COMPANY.
Trains will leave James slip as follows. (Leave 26th-st. East River, fifteen minutes later.)
8:30 A. M.—Greenport Mail.
10:30 A. M.—Port Jefferson, Northport, Locust Valley, and Rockaway trains.
3 P. M.—Riverhead and Sag Harbor Express trains. (through to Greenport on Saturdays.)
4:30 P. M.—Port Jefferson, Northport, and Locust Valley Express.
5 P. M.—Hempstead Express.
6 P. M.—Northport and Rockaway Accommodation.
All trains connect at Jamaica with East New-York, and at Mineola with Hempstead.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

FAMILIES CAN BE FURNISHED with all kinds of help, male or female, of all nations, French, German, Swedes, Welsh, English, and Scotch, at the old-established Bureau, No. 405 6th-av., French Office.

FIRST-CLASS GERMAN SERVANTS, highly recommended, constantly found at the German Bureau, No. 813 Bowery, entrance on Bleecker-st. Mrs. LOWE.

HOUSEKEEPER.—ON FARM OR COUNTRY place by an American woman. Address present employer, No. 83 Irving-place.

HOUSE-WORK.—BY A NEAT, TIDY young (Scotch Protestant) woman; is an excellent plain cook, good washer and ironer; can make bread and biscuit very nice; is highly recommended from late employer; will go a short distance in the country. Call at 138 West 11th-st., corner of 6th-av.

HOUSE-WORK, OR CHAMBER-MAID, and Waitress.—By a neat and tidy German girl, a situation in a private family; has good reference; understands her business thoroughly; no objection to the country. Can be seen at No. 138 6th-av., over drug-store.

HOUSE-WORK.—IN THE CITY OR country, by a neat, tidy young American girl; will be useful in a kind family, at moderate pay; can give good recommendations from former employers; kind and affectionate to children. Call at No. 138 West 11th-st., corner 6th-av.

HOUSE-WORK.—BY A PROTESTANT girl desires employment as above, as chamber-maid, or to assist in washing and ironing for a private family; country no objection; good reference. Call at No. 220 6th-av., between 18th and 17th sts., first floor.

HOUSE-WORK OR CHAMBER-maid and waiting or nurse, by a young American girl of 20; will go to any part of the country or City; very respectable; three years in her last place; best testimonials. Apply at No. 335 4th-av.

HOUSE-WORK.—BY A GOOD, GERMAN woman, to do general housework; is a good cook, washer, and ironer. Apply at No. 127 Norfolk-st., at Mr. Hild's.

LADY'S MAID.—BY A VERY EXCELlent French girl as lady's maid and seamstress; can dress hair; will assist in taking care of growing children, or do light chamber-work; is well recommended. Call at No. 621 6th-av., French Office.

LADY'S MAID, &c.—BY A NURSE, WHO will wait on a lady or do plain sewing for a grown child or two; has good references. Call or address No. 405 5th-av., French Office.

LADIES SUPPLIED WITH FIRST-class help by applying at Mrs. STOCKWELL'S Intelligence Office, No. 1,308 Broadway.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A VERY TIDY YOUNG woman who is highly recommended by late employer; can do fine, polish, starch, ruff, &c.; has no objections to be useful in a family, if requested. Call at No. 138 West 11th-st., corner 6th-av.

LAUNDRESS, CHAMBER-MAID AND Lisaundress, or fine washing.—By a very respectable Protestant young woman; French fluting, and all kinds ladies' and gents' fine washing; country or City. Call at No. 335 4th-av.

LAUNDRESS, OR CHAMBER-MAID AND Laundress.—By a neat and tidy girl, a situation in a private family, or boarding-house; good references; understands her business thoroughly. Can be seen at No. 138 6th-av., over drug-store.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A MOST RESPECTAble woman as first-class laundress; understands her business perfectly, polishing, fluting, &c.; best reference. Call at Employment and Insurance Office, No. 721 6th-av., Reservoir-square.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A YOUNG WOMAN AS first-class laundress; can do French fluting, fine muslins, &c., in a superior manner; has best City reference from last place of one year. Apply at No. 645 6th-av., near 38th-st.

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NURSE.—BY A RESPECTABLE SCOTCH Protestant woman; will be very highly recommended from all former employers; is competent to take full charge of children from birth; is also a good family seamstress; will be useful in a home at reasonable wages. Call at No. 138 West 11th-st., corner 6th-av.

NURSE.—A PROTESTANT WOMAN, WHO is an experienced nurse, and can furnish unexceptionable testimonials of character and ability that will bear investigation. Inquire for N., at Odell's Agency, No. 109 West 34th-st., near Broadway.

EMPLOYERS
Can always be PROMPTLY SUITED with
DOMESTIC HELP
OF ALL NATIONALITIES AT
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No. 109 West 34th-st., Near Broadway.
ESTABLISHED 1859.

NURSE.—BY A SCOTCH GIRL, AS INfant's nurse; can bring it up on the bottle; has had great experience with children; best City reference. Call for two days at office, No. 721 6th-av., Reservoir-square.

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SEAMSTRESS.—A YOUNG WOMAN AS seamstress; understands dress-making and operating. Call at No. 450 4th-av.

SEAMSTRESS.—BY AN ENGLISH WOMan, as first-class reference. Address or call on M. M., No. 54 West 29th-st.

WAITRESS.—BY A THOROUGH, FIRST-class waitress, or chamber-work and waiting; best of City reference. Apply at French and German Office, No. 621 6th-av.

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AGENTS WANTED.
AGENTS WANTED.
Apply at the Office of the
INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION COMPANY.

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WANTED—A FARMER AND GARDENER; a first-class, trustworthy Protestant man, who can command a No. 1 general reference as to his capacity, temperance, and good temper, and who is not afraid to work, on a farm in Westchester County. His wife must be neat, tidy, obliging, and a good dairy-woman. Address No. 9 East 30th-st., 9 A. M. to 12 M., 4 to 6 P. M.

WANTED—A PROTESTANT GIRL TO cook, wash, and iron in a small family near Englewood. City conveniences and good wages. EVERETT, No. 51 Murray-st., from 11 to 1 o'clock.

WANTED—GOOD OPERATORS, BASTERS, and finishers on shop coats. Call at No. 52 Ridge-st., for three days.

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No. 544½ West 23d-st., junction of Broadway and 6th-av.; and the TIMES West-side Office,
No. 308 West 23d-st., corner of 8th-av.
NO EXTRA CHARGE WHATEVER.

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A NEW ENGLISH SADDLE AND BRIDLE for sale at less than value. Apply on Monday to COACHMAN, at No. 9 West 12th-st., first stable west of 5th-av.

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American Plan, with Elevators.
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NO. 922 EAST 1ST-ST.—A PRIVATE family of three, owning their own house, would let second floor, en suite or separate, with or without board; first-class accommodations; moderate terms; reference.

TWO GENTLEMEN DESIRE ONE large square room, or two adjoining rooms, neatly furnished, without board; bath-room and closet on same floor preferred. Address PERMANENT, Box No. 2,762 New-York Post-office.

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TO LET—ONE LARGE AND ONE SINGLE room; handsomely furnished; for gentlemen without meals; private house; occupied by owner. No. 62 West 21st-st.

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AT NO. 60 WEST 14TH-ST.—TWO pleasant front rooms connecting, without board, for gentlemen only; no moving in May.

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COACHMAN.—A GENTLEMAN WANTS TO procure a situation for his coachman; a trustworthy young man; experienced, safe, accustomed City driver; excellent groom; perfectly understands care of horses, carriages; understands gardening, care furnace, can make himself generally useful, obliging. Address Merchant, Box No. 196 *Times* Office, two days.

COACHMAN AND GARDENER.—BY A young man of fair education, speaking German, French, Italian, and English; understands gardening well, driving, and the handling of fine, spirited horses, thoroughly; valuable man; satisfactory references. Address T. T., Box No. 231 *Times* Office.

COACHMAN AND GROOM.—BY A NORTH-of-Ireland man, aged twenty-six years; is willing to tend furnace, milk, assist in gardening, &c.; refers to last employer, with whom he lived two years, for character and capability. Apply at No. 138 West 11th-st., corner 6th-av.

COACHMAN—BY A PROTESTANT, MARried, one in family; where the services of a first-class man are required; in this City; unexceptionable references from first-class families. Address Inman, *Times* Up-town Office, No. 544½ West 23d-st., two days.

COACHMAN.—A SITUATION AS COACHman by a Protestant man; single; is a first-class coachman; understands the proper care of horses, harness, &c.; City or country; unexceptionable reference. Address J. B., Box No. 222 *Times* Office.

COACHMAN.—IN A PRIVATE FAMILY. By a thoroughly competent man who understands his business; excellent City references. Call or address R. D., No. 8 East 31st-st., Bradley's stables.

COACHMAN.—BY A PROTESTANT MAN. Of steady habits; has lived six years in his last place; can show best City reference. Address G. J., *Times* Up-town Office, 544½ West 23d-st., for two days.

COACHMAN.—BY A FIRST-CLASS COACHman and groom, to be his present employer. Room No. 8, No. 112 Broadway, between the hours of 1 and 3 P. M.

COOK.—A GENTLEMAN GOING ABROAD desires a situation for a first-class French (man) cook, whom he can recommend in every way. Apply at No. 509 6th-av., corner 42d-st., or to L. P. Morton, No. 30 Broad-st.

FARMER.—BY A MARRIED MAN, NO family, eighteen years' experience, to take full charge of a gentleman's place; good reference. Apply to L. H. S., Yonkers, Clipper's Works, N. Y.

FARMER.—BY A PROTESTANT MAN, OF long experience. Only those in want of an able man may address J. J. J., Box No. 180 *Times* Office.

GARDENER AND USEFUL MAN.—BY a respectable married man, one child, with cottage; is a

THE CRUISE OF THE MERCURY.

At the Canary Islands—Wreck of an American Vessel.

From a Special Correspondent.

LAS PALMAS, GRAN CANARIA, Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1872.

The New-York nautical school-ship Mercury arrived off Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, on the morning of Dec. 12, 1872, after a passage of three days from Madeira. All hands on board are well, and the boys are beginning to show in the most decided manner the effect of their sea voyage. There is a general improvement in their health and appearance, and such has been the effect of exercise, fresh air, and sunshine, that they would scarcely be recognised as the gamins who left New-York.

Gran Canaria is the second in size of the islands of the Canary group. It is about thirty-six miles in length and thirty-three in width. On the north-eastern extremity, the island terminates in what is known as the islet—a peninsula, about eight miles in circumference, connected with the island by a narrow isthmus about two miles in width, on either side of which there is an extensive bay. Neither of these bays, however, is frequented, except by the small schooners, which carry on a general traffic between the islands. Larger craft from abroad and the mail steamers anchor in the open roadstead off the City of Las Palmas. The anchorage here is good, but the roadstead being exposed to the north and south-east winds, the water is always rough, and the vessels, while riding at anchor, pitch about and roll as though they were in the open sea. A landing is therefore always attended with some difficulty and danger. When the wind freshens, the breakers will dash so high as to preclude the possibility of any communication between the shore and the shipping. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, Las Palmas is quite a prosperous place, and a lively trade is kept up with the other islands of the archipelago, the fisheries on the coast of Africa, and with the various Spanish and Portuguese ports and colonies. For the protection of the landing there is a well-constructed mole, which stretches out from the shore, a distance of about 400 feet. This mole, which is being built at the cost of the Spanish Government, has been in course of construction for many years, and when carried some 200 feet further into the sea, it will admirably answer the purpose for which it was designed. All work upon it is at present suspended, owing to the political troubles at home.

The landing is dangerous at the best of times, and as each stone that is washed into the entrance makes the surf beat higher, it will soon become so high that no boat can live. Disasters, attended by loss of life, are of frequent occurrence, and would be greatly multiplied but for the wonderful expertness of the boatmen. These sturdy seamen, however, are not always able to contend with the surging waters, and then business comes to a stand still. At such times the mail steamers make a desperate effort to land the mails, but anything like freight will be taken away again without an attempt.

The island of Gran Canaria is entirely of volcanic origin, and, like all such islands, it is extremely mountainous and broken. The hills rise up on every side, and sloping away toward the centre, form innumerable peaks, among which may be found the craters of many extinct volcanoes. There is no record of an eruption having taken place upon this island since its occupation by Europeans, but if we can judge at all from the present indications, the eruptions in past times were of fearful magnitude. The whole face of the country shows marks of fire, and in some places, at the base of the mountains, there are fields which might otherwise be valuable and productive, buried under tons upon tons of ashes and lava, the course of which can be distinctly traced from the crater from which it poured over the fields and through the valleys into the ocean. Nor are these craters confined to the mountain tops, for in many places deep pits can be observed in the hill-sides, surrounded with blackened and scorched débris of all descriptions. In places where roads have been cut through the hills the general formation of the island is shown to be a confused mass of mud and small stones. The hills or mountains, crowned with extinct craters, are composed mostly of solid rock; in other localities the mountains are formed of huge, irregular masses of sand-stone rocks and basaltic cliffs, which rise in some places to the height of 1,500 feet. The highest peak upon the island is "El Cumbre," which attains an altitude of 6,648 feet. In the valleys the land is arable and productive, and in some instances worth as much as $1,000 an acre, but most of the good land lies high up above the valleys, and is valuable only in proportion to the means at hand for irrigation.

In former years the principal product of the island was the Canary wine, of which large quantities were manufactured and sent to Europe; but when the vines failed in 1852, owing to the same disease which attacked the Madeira vines, the destruction was so general and the consequent losses so heavy that the interest has never been revived. The few vines that have since been planted give but a poor quality of grape, and the wine made from them finds but few purchasers. Of course, these vines will improve, but the ground is more valuable for cochineal, which returns an immediate profit, and adding to this the fact that Canary wine is entirely out of fashion, there is but little chance of its production ever being renewed. The principal manufactures here are sugar, tobacco, and cigars, with coarse woolens, silks, and linens.

The town of Las Palmas, of which mention has already been made, is the chief commercial part of the entire group, although it divides this honor with Santa Cruz, or Teneriffe, which is the residence of the Governor. Las Palmas contains about 18,000 inhabitants, exclusive of the military garrison. The streets are straight and regular, though narrow, and are provided with sidewalks and paved roadways. The city is well built up and contains many handsome houses belonging to the wealthier classes, but in general, very little attention is paid to outward appearances and the distinguishing characteristics between the homes of the poor and the rich are to be found only in the interior. With but few exceptions the houses are built in the old Moorish style, that is, with a court-yard in the centre, with windows opening into it on all four sides. These courts are reached by a passage-way from the street, and are secured from intrusion by heavy iron-gates, which, together with the small outside windows, give the houses somewhat the appearance of prisons. A glance through the gateways, however, will soon correct this impression, for in many instances the courts are filled with the choicest plants, a flower garden, abounding with rich tropical vegetation. In the centre there is a fountain. Around this are arranged the plants and flowers, with probably several palm or orange trees, which make, at the same time, a most inviting shade, and give a delightful perfume to the surrounding atmosphere.

Most of the merchants here transact their business at their residences, and their offices or stores are usually upon the ground floor within the court. The people here continue to live and work after the same fashion that they did two centuries ago, and this is all the more surprising when it is known that they have regular mail communication with England, Spain, and Portugal, without counting the numerous sailing vessels that trade with Cuba and the West Indies.

The streets in Las Palmas present a very singular aspect, owing to the style of the houses, and they all follow the same general outline. They are all built of the small stones with which the island is covered, and are laid together with immense quantities of plaster, so that when the wall is completed it is nearly two feet thick, and able to resist an ordinary shock of earthquake, and stand unimpaired for centuries. The roofs are invariably flat, and are used by the people for evening promenades, but the outer walls being carried up several feet above the roof, the latter is completely hidden, and the houses present the appearance of being open to the heavens without any covering at all.

Shortly before the arrival of the Mercury at this port the American ship Bennington, of Boston, Peterson, master, from Liverpool to Callao, was wrecked on the outlying rocks of the North Salvages Island, which is simply a mass of black rock which rises from the water, about two days' sail from this port. The account of this disaster, as obtained from the sailors who were saved and the Consular Agent, is, that the vessel struck on the 20th of November, about daylight, being at the time under full sail. The ship began to break up immediately, and the master, with his wife and children, and the officers and crew, took to the boats. They steered for the Salvages, but on the way one of the boats upset, by which accident the carpenter, cook, and six seamen perished. The other boats arrived in safety; but the island being a barren rock, destitute of either food or water, the captain determined to seek assistance at the Canaries. With this intention he embarked with his wife, two children, stewardess, and four seamen, and steered for Teneriffe, leaving six men upon the rock to await his return. When within ten miles of his destination, a furious gale came up from the north-west, and, the boat becoming unmanageable, she was allowed to drift before the wind, and was carried into the roadstead of Las Palmas, alongside the American bark Liberia, H. Fossett, master. By this time the voyagers had passed forty-eight hours in the open boat, in a dreadful storm, without food or water. They were taken on board the Liberia, and all their wants supplied by Capt. Fossett. Senbor Roderigues y Gonsales, the American Consular Agent at this port, and Mr. McKay, Vice-Consul at Teneriffe, consulted together, and after relieving the wants of those who had arrived, took active means to save the lives of those who had been left upon the Salvages. The French mail-steamer Moselle, Capt. Paillaux, chanced to be in the harbor at the time, and the agents were applied to, and told what had occurred. Capt. Paillaux was immediately sent for, and without loss of time, started for the Salvages. After a very rough passage of eighteen hours, the Moselle, with Capt. Peterson, on board as pilot, arrived at the island where the men remained, and after much difficulty landed two boats. All the men were rescued and carried on board the steamer, but such was their famished condition that, if assistance had arrived but a few hours later, it is doubtful if any of them would have been saved. The men were brought to Las Palmas, and cared for by the people generally.

It will be seen that, but for the assistance rendered by Capt. Paillaux, the shipwrecked sailors must inevitably have perished, and the extent of his services may be fully appreciated when it is known that he incurred considerable expense, delay, and risk in putting to sea, heavily laden, in a high gale, and simply to save the lives of these American seamen. These facts have been fully set forth in the detailed account of the occurrence sent to the department, and it is to be hoped that some suitable acknowledgment will be made.

The Mercury will leave this port to-day for Rio de Janeiro, and it is thought about forty-five days will be consumed on the passage, during which deep-sea soundings will be made in the volcanic egions near the equator. M.

The Palestine Exploration Society.

Lieut. Steever, of the United States Army, with his corps of scientific Americans, is now at work exploring Palestine. His head-quarters are to be at Kerak, on the east of the River Jordan. Prof. Paine, the archæologist and botanist of the expedition, has reported some interesting discoveries, but, owing to the excessive rains, has been unable to obtain perfect impressions of the inscriptions. The land of Moab will be their special field of labor during the Spring months.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee, held on Thursday night at the residence of one of the Vice-Presidents of the society, Howard Potter, Esq., letters were read from Lieut. Steever and others in Syria, and it was resolved that the expedition as now constituted merits the cordial support of the American people. The sum of $10,000 has already been given and subscribed, with a view to a thorough exploration of Moab. Small contributions are coming in from the country, but there is immediate and urgent need for $10,000 for the complete equipment and support of this expedition.

We heartily commend this work to our readers. The society is composed of some of our best citizens. Hereafter all subscriptions, whether sent to the President, Rev. Dr. Hitchcock, or to James Stokes, Jr., Esq., of No. 104 John-street, New-York, Treasurer, or to this office, will be acknowledged in the THE TIMES.

Messrs. Howard Potter, Wm. E. Dodge, Joseph Seligman, John Taylor Johnston, Marshall O. Roberts, and Alfred S. Hatch have each given $500, and it is to be hoped that others of our merchant princes will speedily follow their example. Small subscriptions, however, will be thankfully received.

Services in the Kings County Penitentiary—Reopening of the Chapel.

The services at the Kings County Penitentiary yesterday were rendered unusually interesting by the presence of a large number of visitors, the occasion being the reopening of the chapel, which had been partly closed for repairs and embellishment during the past two months. The chapel is situated on the third floor of the main building, and contain a middle row of wide pews for the prisoners and side rows for visitors, with the usual platform and seats for the preacher and choir. Of the 400 prisoners now in the institution, about 160 were present at service yesterday, the women, thirty-five in number, attired in the blue dress of the institution, occupying the three front pews of the main row; and the men, who present a strange appearance to the visitor in their striped gray suits, occupying the twelve rear pews, while the visitors were seated in the side pews. The choir of the Tompkins-avenue Methodist Church, eighteen in number, were present by invitation, and among the visitors were City Judges Reynolds, Supervisors Dwight Johnson, Stillwell, and Matteuse, and Mr. Clark, Secretary of the Brooklyn Young Men's Christian Association. The improvements in the chapel consisted of repairs and painting of the pews, recarpeting of the platform, frescoing of the walls and ceiling, and several minor embellishments, which served to give a very cheerful appearance to the chapel. Service was commenced at 2½ P. M., by Rev. J. G. Bass, who has attended at the chapel for some time past as a missionary from the City Tract and Missionary Society of Brooklyn. At the conclusion of the first part of the service the male inmates sung a hymn with excellent effect. The text of the sermon was taken from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans, fourteenth chapter, twelfth verse: "So, then, every one of us shall give account of himself to God." The text, said the preacher, should be written in the homes and hearts of men, so that it might be ever present with them as a perpetual warning of inevitable accountability. Mankind was accountable to God for his inner character, not in the sense of worldly reputation, for the nature of the influence exerted over fellow-creatures, and for the many vows and promises registered here. Many who might be guilty and escape the penitentiary here, would appear before God in their native character, and beyond the aid of worldly wealth and influence. At the conclusion, the members of the church choir present rendered the anthem, "The Earth is the Lord's," and the services concluded with the singing of another hymn by the male inmates. Before leaving, the visitors made a tour of the institution, inspecting the various places of interest and the improvements and embellishments in several of the apartments, which work, as well as that in the chapel, had been performed by two prisoners, an American and a Frenchman. Services will be held in the chapel every Sunday afternoon hereafter.

The Charter in the Church—Rev. Mr. Crawford on Sectarian Appropriations.

At the Eighteenth-street M. E. Church yesterday, the pastor, Rev. M. D. C. Crawford, preached a sermon on the advantages offered by the Christian Church to its members. In the course of his remarks the reverend gentleman said that the Church of Christ was not established and does not exist to confer secular advantages upon its members. These incidentally are secured for social morality, civilization, intelligence, commerce, trade. These all flourish under the shadow of the Church. The Church was established to secure the spiritual welfare of her members. Indeed, the less the Church is dependent on or patronized by the secular powers of the world the better. State churches are never prosperous in the highest sense. State patronage, even the little we have in this country, is, in my humble judgment, a damage rather than a benefit. You will not wonder, then, if I express my profound gratification that in the new charter for our City we are likely to have a provision which hereafter forbids any gift of money, or gratuitous conveyance of real estate, to any church, charity, or school, or other church institution. Having said this, to be consistent, I must say more. A former Legislature authorized the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund of this City to convey to the mangers of one of the grandest and most deserving charities of our church, a valuable plot of ground—eleven City lots—worth, perhaps, $100,000, on which to build a home for aged and indigent members of our church. Greatly to my regret, the managers have voted to accept this gift. No doubt they were conscientious, for there are no more worthy people among us than are they and their advisers. Nevertheless, I believe they have done a wrong act, and have not honored the church which they represent. I hold that the Legislature had no right to authorise the gift. My hope is that the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund will refuse to make the conveyance, thereby honoring themselves and saving our denomination from discredit.

RATIONALISM AND RELIGION.

A Sermon by Rev. E. Schlidby Widdower.

The Chapel of the Reconciliation, in Thirty-first-street, near Second-avenue, was well filled last night to hear the sermon by Rev. E. S. Widdower on "The Dangerous Tendency of Philosophic Speculations in Reference to the Birth of Religion." The text was taken from Colossians, second chapter and eighth verse—

Beware, lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, and after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

The preacher remarked that this injunction was given by St. Paul to the Christians at Colassee, in consequence of a disposition to turn their thoughts from the pure and simple doctrine of Christ to those philosophical delusions and vain speculations so prevalent in his age. These the Apostle terms "vain deceit," founded entirely upon the traditions of mankind, while their nature and tendency was to subvert the great principles of the doctrines of the Cross. They formed the first elements or supposed principles of human and Divine wisdom, yet totally opposed to the teachings of the religion of Jesus. The Apostle terms them Judaizing teachers, who attempted to harmonize their thoughts with Pagan philosophies. There is a philosophy, however, which the early developments of our holy religion always encouraged, and to which we to-day bow in reverence—which ever aids our reasoning faculties in the promotion of true religion in heart and life. I mean that philosophy which applies the mind to the study of God's Word and all His works, and confirms and strengthens our faith in Him the more we indulge in it. The sinfulness to which the Apostle has referred in my text is this—that these vain and traditionary speculations array man's opinion against God's will and Word. And this is the reason why Lord Bacon has said "A little philosophy inclineth a man's mind to atheism, but depth of philosophy bringeth his mind about to religion." You seldom find a great mind that is willing to tamper with Divine truth. We have in more modern times the result of the opinions of real philosophers, men before whose grasps every petty infidel objection has vanished like morning dew. There are Butler, Blakely, Barrow, Pearson, and Usher, or Grotius, Locke, and Newton; men whose minds have produced such networks of defense that infidelity has been compelled again and again to shift its manner of attack, until, in humility, it has been compelled to assume the defensive rather than the aggressive. And it has been the want of compliance with this apostolic injunction which has produced the quicksands and formed the rocks upon which so many have foundered. When Ammonius in the second century attempted to harmonize Grecian speculation and Jewish sophistry, he injured the purity of the Gospel but little. It was when some of the Christian teachers themselves partially adopted these views, and went so far as to insinuate that our Saviour did not design wholly to destroy the worship adhered to by foreign beliefs that the purity of the Gospel received a blow from which it did not recover for centuries. Mahomet in an infancy when the first the most illiterate could comprehend were, through these speculations, made wholly obscure. The attempt to harmonize false and true religion struck at the very root of the existence of the latter. In the third century these speculative views became still more prevalent. Then it assumed other forms. Men's minds having become disturbed on certain theological points, the chasm in their opinions became wider. These speculations now began in reference to the existence of one God as the source of all things, the eternity of matter, or the dependence of matter upon God, the nature of the human soul, having special reference to a future life. There was a leaning to God's word, and yet so opposed to its plain teachings that it became most difficult for a novice in spiritual matters to gain correct ideas. In fact, these teachings so engrafted themselves into the very life of religion that they became its bane; corruption followed corruption from age to age. In the fourth century a direct attack was made upon the divinity of our Lord, which culminated in an almost equal dissension of the Church. After a long lapse of fearful inactivity in the Church, the human mind, though dormant, began again to rise in its majesty, by questioning the reasons for its chains and slavery. It saw the abuses of Christianity so-called. It perceived the inconsistency between the teachings of Jesus and those who were his professed followers. It was this inconsistency which raised up a host of skeptics, who, to this day, still surge and roll against the citadel of religion. The history of the Church proves that she has never been so pure as when emerging from a seven-fold heated furnace. It was not before Manasseh was caught among thorns, bound with fetters, and carried to Babylon, that he besought the Lord his God. Nor was he again brought to his kingdom at Jerusalem until, through humiliation, he was taught wisdom. And the whole history of religious errors shows that the Church is cold, formal, and controversial before the visitation of skepticism. The Master, who declared himself "The Truth," premonished us by his life that his doctrines were not destined to pervade the mind and heart without encountering violent blows, and passing through whole Winters of storm and frost. Truth will appear all the brighter, however, after passing through such stormy trials. The country where skepticism—or rationalism as it is now termed—has exerted its chief influence is Germany, than which no nation has been more prospered, or passed through deeper afflictions. There was a time when she was the chief leader of religious liberty and divine truth among the nations of the world. She was thirty years fighting the battles of Protestantism. Since that day she has lost the prestige of her adherence to Evangelical Christianity; her representative theologians and great thinkers have in many instances deserted the Bible which she was the very first, under Luther, to unseal. It is perfectly natural for the human mind to speculate, but the very moment it speculates the holy spirit out of our holy religion, it casts itself loose from God's revealed will, and assumes to be the arbiter of its own faith. It is not necessary for us to travel through the history of the Rationalism of Germany, or the free thought of those who throw off God's word entirely. In our own Church we have our Broad Church, our free-thought ministry, which refuses to be bound by the authority that accepts the old interpretations of faith. The views of Arnold, Maurice, and Kingsley are molding and forming many of the opinions of the younger clergy in this country, as well as England. These Broad Church views are simply a philosophic grade nearer the cross than the rationalism of Germany, or the views that Renan advocates to-day. But the assaults which the rationalism of the last century has made has not induced a single lover of sin to forsake its Saviour, where regeneration was really effected. And what is singular, in reference to this whole subject, is, that not one of the opposers of our holy religion, even the veriest atheist, has attempted to reject the whole teachings of Christ Jesus. Let me urge you, in the language of our Apostle, to "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, and after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."

The Quarantine Resolutions.

The following are the preamble and resolutions introduced in the Senate of this State, Friday, and adopted without debate:

Whereas, Since the creation of the office of Commissioner of Quarantine, in the year 1863, nearly $2,000,000 have been appropriated and expended for quarantine purposes in the port of New-York, more than one-half of which, it is alleged, has been expended during the past three years; and,

Whereas, The property which has been acquired for the State by such expenditure consists mainly of the two artificial islands and the buildings erected or being erected thereon, in the Lower Bay of New-York, one of which is known as the Swinburne Island Hospital and designed for hospital purposes, and the other as Hoffman Island, and is designed as a place for the detention of those who have been exposed to disease; and,

Whereas, It is alleged that the said first-mentioned island was constructed and furnished ready for use in the early part of 1869, at an expense of $425,000, while the foundation for the other was completed and ready for buildings in 1870, the contract price of such foundation being the sum of $253,491 68, and the amount thereof being provided for in the appropriations made previous to that year; and,

Whereas, Notwithstanding nearly $1,000,000 have been appropriated for quarantine purposes since the year 1869, the buildings on said Hoffman Island are not yet completed or furnished; and,

Whereas, The Board of Commissioners under whose supervision said islands were constructed, have never rendered a detailed account of their expenditures, whereby the propriety and necessity of said expenditures can be ascertained; and,

Whereas, At the last session of the Legislature, a report was submitted to the Assembly by the Committee of Commerce and Navigation, from which it appears that said board has been guilty of extravagant and improper expenditures of the moneys appropriated for the purposes aforesaid; and,

Whereas, The appropriations for the support of quarantine during the whole of the first half of the present century, were less than is now required for its support for a single year; therefore,

Resolved, That the Board of Commissioners constituted by chapter 781 of the laws of 1868, be and they are hereby directed to transmit to the Senate within ten days after service of a copy of the foregoing preamble and this resolution on their secretary or president, an account, verified by their treasurer, showing the amount of moneys expended by them since the date of their examination; the amount of each separate expenditure and the special object thereof, what work has been performed, and what materials were furnished under contract, and the amount of each contract; the amount expended in surveying the riprap around each of said islands, and the number of yards added to each not embraced in the original contract for the erection thereof, and the amount paid for salaries of employes of said board, and the nature of the services rendered by each, and that said board also report whether any liabilities have been incurred by them which remain unpaid, and if so, for what purpose and to what amount.

Resolved, That with a view to the reduction of the expenses of the administration of quarantine, the Finance Committee be and they are hereby directed to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the office of Commissioner of Quarantine, and such other retrenchment as they may deem proper, and that they report by bill or otherwise to this Senate.

Destructive Fire in New-Bedford—Several Buildings Burned.

A destructive fire occurred in New-Bedford, Mass., early on Saturday morning, beginning in the tobacco shop of E.T. Chapman, in the Concert Hall building, on Purchase-street, and in a short time extending in a greater or less decree to all the buildings on the west side of that street to Union-street. The *Mercury* gives the following details:

It was hoped at first that the fire would not extend north from where it originated, but it soon became evident that the conflagration was working north against the wind. In a short time it had extended through the building occupied by Wm. Knights and B. R. Kittredge, and owned by Thomas Allen's estate. Here its progress was checked, there being an alley-way to arrest its course, and the roof of the adjoining building forming an advantageous position from which to fight the fire. The firemen worked nobly, and so far as could be seen, they were efficiently directed by the engineers, but it was more than two hours before any material diminution in the fire could be perceived. It was after 8 o'clock when the wall of the Concert Hall building fell in, and at that time the north extremity of the fire was burning furiously, while at the south end the change in the aspect of the building was visible from the front, though the roof and rear were on fire. At the time of going to press the fire was under control, and it was plain that it would be confined to the limits above stated. The building on the corner is greatly damaged by water and fire, while those at the north of it are almost totally destroyed. Smoking ruins and blackened walls make a painful sight, but we should be thankful it is no worse.

In the excitement of this morning it was impossible to obtain a full account of the losses and insurance. It may be stated that nearly all, if not quite all the insurance agents in the city have losses.

The Concert Hall building, in which the fire originated, is owned by Wright, Brownell and others. The building was worth about $8,000, and was insured for $2,000. E. T. Chapman, tobacconist, No. 17, where the fire was discovered, lost everything. His stock was valued at $1,800; insured $900 through F. L. Gilman. P. T. Wilbur, No. 15, furnishing goods, &c., stock worth $2,500, no insurance; total loss. Levi Hawes, No. 13, confectioner, lost everything. Stock worth $2,500; insured $500 through Thomas M. James. The Singer Sewing-machine Company had an agency at No. 19 under the charge of J. H. Garnett. A number of machines were saved, but nearly everything was lost; no insurance. Edward P. Freeman, boots and shoes, No. 3; considerable of his stock was saved. It was valued at from $4,000 to $5,000, and was insured through J. S. Tillinghast for $4,000.

The most northerly of the buildings burned was owned by Thomas Allen's estate, and occupied by Wm. Knights, furniture dealer, and B. R. Kittredge, harness maker. Most of their stock on the first floor was removed.

Messrs. C. H. & H. A. Lawton, who lately bought out E. Thornton, Jr., on the corner of Purchase and Union streets, will lose nearly all their stock, mostly damaged by water. A few things were removed in a damaged condition. They have an insurance of $4,500 through Lawrence Grinnel. The Messrs. Lawton had recently stocked their store, and the insurance will hardly cover their loss. They can be found hereafter at the lower store.

The building corner of Union and Purchase streets is owned by Taber, Read & Co., and is stated to be insured through Thomas M. James. The second floor was occupied by the Young Men's Christian Association, and the third by Jacob S. Parker's billiard-saloon. Neither of these occupants saved anything. An attempt was made to save articles from the second floor, but failed on account of the smoke.

C. W. Hurll, No. 21, dealer in watches and jewelry, saved all of his stock except the big clock. Henry J. Taylor kindly opened his doors for the relief of Mr. Hurll. George N. Parlow, photographer, at No. 5, lost everything. His stock was valued at $5,000; insured $6,500 through S. H. Cook. Allen & Brownell, harness-makers at No. 7, saved nearly all their stock that was down stairs. Lewis Cotele, trimmings and worsteds, was at No. 11; nothing was saved. Frederick Parker, No. 9, fruit and confectionery, lost nearly everything. Other losers were James S. Howard, photographer; D. C. Ashley, barber, and several whose names could not be obtained.

The San Francisco Marine Board—An Interesting Suit.

From the San Francisco Alta, Feb. 15.

Daniel Morris and John Mack, both seamen, commenced proceedings in Admiralty yesterday against the American schooner Norway, to recover, respectively, $25 50 and $32 88, alleged to be due them as wages. The libel is filed in the United States District Court, and states that they shipped on the Norway for a voyage to Coos Bay and back; that they signed shipping articles, and performed their duties faithfully.

The fact that this is to be made a test case to settle a question of conflict between the State and United States laws, gives it some importance. The decision will also determine whether or not the Marine Board of this port can exercise intermediatory powers, judicial in their nature, between seamen, sailor boarding-house masters, and captains or owners of vessels. Jack knows he has an unscrupulous person to deal with in the sailor boarding-house master, and when opportunity offers, or the law favors, he, too, becomes unscrupulous. The boarding-house masters have always complained of their treatment by sailors who engage on coasters. They are not paid an advance, and if they are in debt to the boarding-master he then steps in he must wait for his pay until his debtor's return. When they arrive in port they generally seek, not the house of their creditor, but another mansion; and instead of paying their just debts they spend their money, and often go in debt to their new master. With deep water seamen it is different. They receive an advance, which, heretofore, at least, the boarding masters managed to get hold of and retain; often when only a small sum was due, and as often when the sailor was not in debt to any amount. The coasters, however, have stepped to lessen the illegitimate profits of the boarding-masters in their transactions with deep water seamen. To defeat the coasters, and make them pay their debts appears to have been one of the objects for which the Marine Board of this port was established. The boards of almost all ports of the act creating it, they have vested in them the power to regulate the financial differences between seamen and boarding-masters. It has been the custom when a sailor, after his return from a voyage, fails to pay the boarding-master, to have the latter file his demand with the board, who claimed to have the power to garnish the seaman's wages in the captain's hands, and compel him to pay it to them for the boarding-master, to whom it would be handed over.

In the case of the sailors, Morris and Mack, George O'Brien, a boarding-house keeper, claimed that they owed him money, which they neglected or refused to pay. He filed his claim with the Marine Board, and when the schooner Norway arrived the Marine Board garnished the amounts due O'Brien, and enforced payment of the same. Morris and Mack demanded the full amount of their wages, which the Captain paid, less the sums paid to the Marine Board. But the sailors not satisfied with the adjustment of their affairs by the Marine Board, commenced a libel suit against the schooner to recover the balance. It is claimed that under the law creating the office of Shipping Commissioner, the Marine Board cannot exercise those functions which it holds it can, and that it has no power to determine the justness of the claim of a boarding master as against a seaman. The boarding masters feel some interest in this matter. If the Court should decide in favor of the libelants the convenient method of obtaining money from sailors, through the officers of the Marine Board, would cease. They have raised a purse to employ counsel and contest the suit, as they cling fondly to the Marine Board, as a tribunal before which to settle their financial disputes. Judge Hoffman's decision will be looked for and read with interest. If it should be in favor of the libelants, then one of the most important offices of the Marine Board for the port of San Francisco will have taken wings and departed from that body. We see no reason why sailor boarding-house masters should not appeal to the Courts for the settlement of their accounts, as other citizens are compelled to do.

Arrest of a Massachusetts Broker.

Early yesterday morning Detective Simington, of Central Office, arrested, at the St. Denis Hotel, Samuel McKee, a broker, of Cambridgeport, Mass., on a charge of embezzlement. The facts in the case were simple. Messrs. Fitch, Otis & Co., brokers, of No. 11 Pine-street, charge that they sent McKee $8,000 in city bonds of the City of Laramie, Kansas, the understanding being that he was to dispose of the bonds advantageously, and return the proceeds, less a reasonable commission. The firm received information that McKee had sold the bonds in Boston and appropriated the money to his own use. A warrant was procured from Justice Engly, of Middlesex County, Massachusetts, and it having been learned that McKee had left Cambridgeport and come to this City, Detective Simmington was detailed to work up the case, finally succeeding in arresting McKee. The prisoner, a man of fine appearance and good education, consented to waive all formalities regarding a requisition and accompany Constable Simmons to Cambridgeport. The offer was accepted, and McKee left for Cambridgeport, in charge of State Constable Simmons, at 7 o'clock last evening.

NEW-YORK AND SUBURBAN NEWS.

NEW-YORK.

Patrick Gunn, a deck hand on the steamer Sewanhaka, lying at Pier No. 24 East River, while drunk fell overboard, yesterday, and was drowned.

Rev. Frederick Bell, a converted English pauliist, preached, last evening, in the Seventeenth-street M. E. Church. There was a large congregation present.

Nicholas Muller was charged with keeping a policy shop at No. 631 Third-avenue, for which he was held in $1,000 bail for trial at the Yorkville Police Court yesterday.

During an altercation at No. 726 Ninth-avenue, yesterday evening, Thomas Shannon, of No. 403 West Forty-sixth-street, was stabbed in the left side, and slightly wounded, by an unknown man.

Henry Sandford and Henry Baum had a fight at No. 9 Second-avenue yesterday afternoon, when Sandford was struck on the head with a club and severely injured by Baum, who escaped.

At Jefferson Market Police Court, yesterday, before Justice Ledwith, James Power was held for trial on a charge of stealing money off the collecting plate in St. John's Roman Catholic Church.

Samuel Watson, of No. 244 East Thirtieth-street, was committed in the Yorkville Police Court yesterday on complaint of Mary Williams, of Greene-street, who alleged that he stole from her two rings valued at $60.

Alice Guiney, thirty-four years old, of No. 454 West Nineteenth-street, while temporarily insane, attempted suicide at her residence, yesterday evening, by cutting her throat. She was taken to Bellevue Hospital.

A sad accident occurred at Eighty-eighth-street and Second-avenue, yesterday. Elizabeth McGunniss, twenty-two years old, was fatally burned from her clothes having taken fire from a stove in her room.

At the Turn Hall, on Fourth-street, a concert was given last night, by the Sunday-school of the German Society for Force, Social, and Moral Education, at which the Marschner Maennerchor vocal society assisted.

The Cologna Carnival Society held its eighth and last carnivalistic "session," at its rooms, No. 9 Second-avenue, last night, and will close the session by a masquerade, at the Germania Assembly Rooms, to-morrow.

The first lecture of the Trinity Chapel course, under the auspices of the Sunday-school Association of the Protestant Episcopal Church, will be delivered this evening by Rev. Noah Hunt Schenck, D. D., on the History of the English Bible.

Mary Carroll, seventy-three years old, residing at No. 276 First-avenue, was brought to the Eighteenth Precinct Station, suffering from a severe scalp wound, received during a fight at her residence on Monday last. She was taken to Bellevue Hospital.

At the meeting of the Federal Council of the Internationals, yesterday, the report of the committee appointed to wait on the members of the Rapid Transit Association was received and adopted, and the committee were instructed to confer with that of the Rapid Transit Association to prepare a scheme for building a rail road without cost to the people by issuing currency guaranteed by the City.

BROOKLYN.

The body of a new-born male infant, with a seven-pound flat-iron attached for the purpose of sinking it, was found, yesterday morning, floating on a cake of ice under the Hamilton Ferry-house. The body had evidently been thus disposed of but a few hours previous.

At 6½ o'clock last evening a fire broke out, from some unknown cause, in Jerome Plummer's two-story frame stable, on Dean-street, near Nostrand-avenue, entirely destroying the building. Mr. Plummer's carriage and horses were saved. Loss, $3,500; insurance unknown.

Peter Mounett, aged forty-five, by occupation a cigar-maker, was arrested at midnight, Saturday, for attempting to break into the residence of J. Hellings, No. 198 South Eighth-street. Mounett was found to be bleeding profusely from a scalp wound, which he refused to give any account of.

While Fredonia Council No. 3 of the Order of United American Mechanics, numbering fifty men, were celebrating Washington's birthday by a parade in Greenpoint, they were interrupted by the police, who arrested their President, Mr. Arthur B. Dyson, for parading without a permit. An order was subsequently received from the Central Office allowing them to pass.

LONG ISLAND.

There has been a fatal case of small-pox in Hempstead. Several people are sick with the disease.

There is a large amount of criminal business to be disposed of by the Queens County Court and Court of Sessions which meets to-day, at North Hempstead.

Bishop Littlejohn conducted service in St. John's Episcopal Church, Hunter's Point, yesterday, and confirmed twelve persons.

The Episcopalians of Port Jefferson have purchased a plot of ground upon which to erect a new church. The Catholics also propose to build a church in that village.

Communication with the towns on the north side by water being stopped, the supply of coal is running short, and there is likely to be a great scarcity, unless the freight by railroad is reduced.

The Town Committees of Oyster Bay, Hempstead, North Hempstead, and Jamaica, met on Saturday, and prepared the draft of an act for the total repeal of the law creating the Queens County Court-house Commission. A committee was appointed to present the draft to the Assemblymen and State Senator.

Yesterday morning Officer Scully, of Jamaica, found, under the high-bridge crossing of the Long Island Railroad, the dead body of a man, apparently Irish and about forty-five years of age. Coroner Allen had the body conveyed to Jamaica village, where an inquest was held. The man's head was badly injured, and the jury found that he must have fallen through the railroad bridge, which is some eighteen feet high, and censured the Long Island Railroad Company for failing to have cautionary notices attached to the bridge.

NEW-JERSEY.

The Pennington-Burke libel suit against the Jersey City *Times* has been postponed until March 11. The suit grew out of the report of an alleged prize-fight.

John Ferguson, aged thirty-five, an employe in the Clark Thread-works, was, yesterday morning, found dead in bed at his residence, No. 55 Belleville-avenue. He had retired at a late hour in his usual health, but his wife, on awakening, found him dead by her side.

Sunday Night at the News-Boys' Lodging-House.

The large reception hall at the lodging-house in Park-place, was crowded last evening, by the news-boys and boot-blacks, who ply their trade in the neighborhood of Printing House-square and the down-town streets. The usual Sunday night services were conducted by Mr. C. L. Brace, who, after reading a few verses of the Gospel of St. Matthew, commented in a very simple but able manner upon the truths taught by the lesson. The orderly conduct of the boys and the earnest attention which they gave to the remarks of Mr. Brace, and the addresses of other gentlemen who followed him, excited the admiration of all present. Mr. Dorman B. Eaton, being present, kindly consented to address the lads. His remarks were thoroughly practical in their character and claimed the undivided attention of his audience during their delivery. Brief addresses were also made by Mr. J. W. Skinner, and others, who were present. The lodging-house is under the superintendence of Mr. C. O. Conner, who for the past dozen years has in all respects made it in reality, as it is in name, ah ome for the homeless.

Personal.

Hon. De Witt C. Littlejohn, ex-Speaker of the Assembly; Hon. James Trabie, President of the Board of Trade, Kentucky; Hon. Ben. Field, of Albion, N. Y., and Capt. B. Ward, of Troy, are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Major F. K. Simonds, of Boston, and Judge E. H. Grandin, of Mobile, are at the New-York Hotel.

Hon. E. R. Blackwell, of Philadelphia, and Hon. J. B. Powell, of Hartford, are at the Grand Central Hotel.

Gen. P. J. Osterhaus, of France; Hon. R. C. Parsons, of Cleveland, and Hon. James Putnam, of Burlington, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Col. R. F. Hunter and Gen. E. C. Wilson, of Washington, D. C., are at the Astor House.

Mayor Henry L. Pierce, of Boston; Oliver Ames, of Massachusetts, and Hon. George B. Loring, of Salem, Mass., are at the Fifth-avenue Hotel.

Hon. C. P. Pattison, of Washington, D. C., is at the Everett House.

The Shoemakers Renewing Their Demand for Increased Prices.

Under the auspices of the German Crispus' Lodge a mass-meeting of German shoemakers employed in the custom branch of the trade was held at the Tenth Ward Hotel yesterday. Alexander Limburg presided. He stated that the principal object of the meeting was to give to the members of the trade an opportunity to become members of the Crispin organization without paying the usual initiation fee of $2, with a view of strengthening the organization, so that higher wages may be enforced in the Spring. The names of those at the meeting were enrolled, and it was stated that similar action will be taken by the English and French lodges and other branches of the trade.

How Democrats Slight the Will of the People.

From the St. Louis Democrat, Feb. 21.

The Democrats of the Missouri Legislature, having illustrated nearly all the other bad features of American politics during the past two months, gave a few easy lessons on the iniquity of the caucus system night before last. The occasion was a debate on the propriety of calling a constitutional convention